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Dream On

» A few years ago, the editors here joined some contest winners for a long weekend in Penticton and Naramata, in the heart of Okanagan country. Between a gruelling schedule of wine tastings and long, leisurely lunches, you could see the wheels starting to turn for everyone. I'm certain our food and travel editor (and resident wine expert) Neal McLennan was out scouting property in the Skaha Bluffs for the rows of barbera grapes that will one day become his own wine label. As for me, I could see my long-dreamed-of knitting store down on Main Street, paired with my own weekend hobby farm of alpacas and hazelnuts in nearby Summerland.

There are few places in Canada more likely to start alternate-life daydreams than the Okanagan in the summer, where an idyllic life of tending vineyards or

peach trees or walnut groves seems just a real estate investment away, and the hours stretch out into extended beach barbecues and wine-fuelled dinners. (Of course, the reality of it is incredibly hard work; but still, who can argue with looking out over Okanagan Lake with a glass of local pinot in hand?)

This issue shines the light on the West's favourite summer playground, from two stunning homes owned by those who have indeed followed the OK's siren call—a couple from Saskatoon; a winery owner from

Vancouver by way of Calgary—to one magical afternoon of friends and fantastic food at Vancouver artist Bobbie Burgers's home just south of Penticton. (It turns out she's a gifted cook, too: her simple but fabulous summer menu highlights the best of the season, from summery arugula pesto to seared venison paired with Okanagan apricot chutney. And she's given us the recipes, of course.) Let these small tastes of Valley life inspire those of us who live elsewhere in the West to visit and explore this summer—earning us just a few more visions of the future to daydream on for the months to follow.



ANICKA QUIN // EDITOR-IN-CHIEF // AQUIN@WESTERNLIVINGMAGAZINE.COM



Behind the Scenes Art director Paul Roelofs finds props for the winery-only mixed case shoot (top); artist Bobbie Burgers (bottom) sets the scene for photographer Evaan Kheraj for our food story.

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Due West

PEOPLE // PLACES // STYLE // CULTURE // SHOPPING // EVENTS // OPENINGS



Modern History
Sarah Ward took inspiration from this restaurant's location (The Nash operates inside the historic National Hotel) and crafted a casually elegant, heritage-chic space.

ONE TO WATCH

The Storyteller

Designer Sarah Ward infuses Calgary restaurants with a sense of history.

» While Calgary-based interior designer Sarah Ward's latest creations are in the most public of spaces—think the Nash Restaurant, Off Cut Bar and Corbeaux Bakehouse—her first project was of a much more personal, private design. As a youth, after her family made the move from Saskatoon to Calgary, Ward's parents had allowed her to decorate her new bedroom. "It was the first time I had the power to control my environment," she says. "It was exciting to explore all the possibilities."

Decades later, Ward has become a design powerhouse in Calgary, with her company, Sarah Ward Interiors, attached to many of the most anticipated restaurant openings in the city—essentially redefining the local dining scene. "I like working for entrepreneurs," she says. "I love the energy and enthusiasm that first-time business owners exude."

Ward's designs often eschew trends in favour of storytelling: the American South-inspired Proof Cocktail Bar; the family-friendly Crave Cupcakes (the wholesome vibe is amplified by hand-worn finishes); and the farmhouse-chic Bro'Kin Yolk. "It's important for us to have a compelling narrative for each space we create," Ward says. "We celebrate the process of discovery."

—Nisha Ranu

Hot Buys

*New in stores
across the West*

Concrete Jungle

These floating **Bullet Lights** (from \$286) are made from porous concrete and seem to defy gravity. We won't question the physics of it—we're too busy choosing our favourite of the six colour options (think charcoal, blue talc or Moroccan orange). *LRI Lighting, online, lri-lighting.com*



Time After Time

This retro-inspired, hand-welded **flip clock** (from \$437) from Leff Amsterdam features a modern finish: an on-trend copper or stainless steel case. Prop it on your bedside table or hang on the wall like the work of art it is. *Vancouver Special, Vancouver, vanspecial.com*



Bottoms Up

The **Nilsson wine shelf** (\$1,059)—crafted with ecologically friendly Malaysian wood and a non-toxic MDF coating as part of Rove Concept's Kure collection—may look sleek and modern, but it incorporates the care and attention of an old-school home bar, complete with upside-down glass storage and secure wine racking. *Rove Concepts, Vancouver, roveconcepts.com*



Over and Over

We have it on good authority from our favourite coffee snobs that pour-over is the only way to go. Bodum apparently has the same sources—they've introduced a new line of **Pour Over coffee makers** (\$40), complete with a permanent filter and a selection of poppy colours. *Penna and Co., Victoria, pennakitchen.com; Ming Wo, Vancouver, mingwo.com*

Sofabulous

Sure, the retro silhouette of the **Silva Christy sofa** (price on request) is nice, but it's the upholstery that has us swooning: black-and-white houndstooth adds a subtle element of pattern while still playing neutral. *Bespoke Design, Victoria, bespoke-design.ca; Layers and Layers, Vancouver, layersandlayers.com*





Fatherly Love

Designer Sergio Vergara named the handcrafted **Victoria chair** (\$1,597) in honour of his new baby daughter—which may just make it the most stylish birthday gift of all time. *Zientte, Vancouver, zientte.ca*



Stack 'Em Up

Engage your Tetris skills to create the ideal formation of Bensen's **Brix drawer system** (from \$473): stack to your desired height or width and then connect securely with a simple locking mechanism. Infinite storage in a high-gloss package. *Chester Fields, Victoria, chester-fields.com; Inform, Vancouver, informinteriors.com*



ONE-QUESTION INTERVIEW with

Aviv Fried

Co-owner, *Sidewalk Citizen Bakery*



Why are all of Calgary's coolest foodies moving to the historic Simmons Building?

We are good friends and admire each other's food and work, so it seemed like a good idea to join forces to create a unique space. We didn't just want a place to make food, but one with a lot of energy, activity and action, where one can see meat being cured and prepared, dough being shaped into bread, then baked, and coffee being roasted. And we're on the River Trail, which is exciting: it's shared by everyone. The Simmons Building is one of the most beautiful buildings in Calgary, with a long history of reinvention, and we're happy to be one of the iterations of the building.

Sidewalk Citizen Bakery opens its newest location in Calgary's Simmons Building this month. sidewalkcitizenbakery.com

Openings

Hot new rooms we love

Vancouver

ANN SACKS

The tile line finds a home in the Armoury District, a bright space decked out with workstations and gorgeous displays, like a dreamy chevron-tiled fireplace. annsacks.com

Banff

INDIAN SUMMER

When Vikram Vij moved to Canada in 1989, his first job was cooking at the iconic Banff Springs Hotel. Now the famed chef is heading back to open pop-up restaurant Indian Summer. fairmont.com/banff-springs

Saskatoon

PRIMAL

Chefs Kyle Michael and Christie Peters—the duo behind the Hollows—go Italian, crafting noodles with Saskatchewan heritage grains and sauces from their whole-animal butchery. primalpasta.ca





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Diary

*The coolest
events*



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Edmonton

*Food Fight
June 8*

Three surprise ingredients, two of the city's best chefs—Bully Food Truck's Dean Gossen and Local Omnivore's Mark Bellows—and only one hour of cooking time make for a culinary showdown of epic proportions. edmontonfoodfight.ca

11

Calgary

*Dinner by Design
June 11 & 12*

The popular Vancouver event makes its way to Calgary; check out stunning tablescapes created by the city's top designers—think Nyla Free and Amanda Hamilton—during the elegant cocktail reception or alongside a multi-course feast. dinnerxdesign.com

20

Victoria

*Strawberries
and Wine
June 20 & 21*

This may be the most delicious way to celebrate the summer solstice. Bike the Saanich Peninsula from vineyard to farm (and then to another vineyard) and sample fresh strawberry baked goods alongside stellar local wines. flavourtrails.com



Muddled Up

Whip up a batch of fresh honey lemonade in a snap with the **Zing 54 carafe** (\$45)—it has a built-in citrus reamer, muddler and storage cap. You're officially patio season-ready. *Cook Culture*, Victoria, cookculture.com; *Choices Market*, Vancouver, choicesmarkets.com



Simply Beautiful

West River Field Lab ceramics (pieces from \$20), a collection of minimalist dishware crafted by Japanese designer Nobuhito Nishigawara, add a layer of hand-hewn beauty to the classic white dinner plate. *Old Faithful*, Vancouver, oldfaithfulshop.com



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Squamish, Evolved

Sorry, Whistler—there's a new Sea to Sky hot spot.

» Squamish didn't have a bad reputation—it had no reputation. In times past, a mention of it to any Vancouverite would result in a vague memory of stopping for gas on the way to Whistler. Oh, how times have changed: now, the town has become a destination in its own right. (The boom is true for residents as much as day trippers—Squamish is currently experiencing a zero-percent vacancy rate.) It's not hard to see why Squamish is having a moment. It's filled with friendly faces and a never-ending to-do list of outdoor activities that take fitness buffs from the churning river to the mountain peaks; a rapidly developing local food scene doesn't hurt, either.

High Time Two reasons for Squamish's current buzz? Excellent hiking spots, like the Sky Pilot Suspension Bridge (above), and the beer from the getting-better-every-year Howe Sound brewery (inset).

FRIDAY

Check in to the Logger's Shack at **Sunwolf** (sunwolf.net), a reclaimed historic cabin just north of town filled with rustic wood beams and plenty of sunlight. The lodge is run by a charming British couple and their adorable baby, and the personal touch gives the property a homey vibe—when you're en route to the hot tub, you'll likely find them ladling homemade stew into bowls for rafting groups (the lodge offers whitewater adventures, as well as mellower eagle-watching tours come winter) or chatting up the regulars at the on-site **Fergie's Cafe**.

And they're not the only young entrepreneurs flocking to Squamish. Award-winning sommelier and mixologist Kelly Woods (the wizard behind La Mezcaleria's stellar bar program) recently opened up her own distillery, **Gillespie's** (gillespiesfinespirits.com), with partner John McLellan. Make their tasting room (a really

hidden gem tucked into an industrial park) your next stop. The pair serves up samples of handcrafted limoncello, spruce-tip-infused gin and craft vodka that's good enough to sip and savour. You'll want to linger in the tiny, speakeasy-cool lounge, but grab a bottle, too, to enjoy on ice back at the cabin, along with an Indian-fusion pie from **Pizzalicious** down the way. It may look like any other buck-a-slice joint, but trust us and pick up a butter chicken pizza to go—creamy butter sauce is slathered onto a naan-like crust and topped with fresh tomato and cilantro—because a night in with your cozy wood stove and some good company awaits. BYO board games, though: with no wifi or TV, Sunwolf is proudly off the grid.

SATURDAY

Snag a maple walnut scone and North Vancouver-roasted coffee from **Zephyr Cafe** (zephyrcafe.ca) for



breakfast, and stock up on picnic essentials for the afternoon from **Black Market Cheese** (blackmarketcheese.ca), located in the vestibule of Be Clean Naturally Soaps, while you're on Squamish's main drag. It may seem odd that cave-aged Emmental and truffled boschetto occupy a counter among locally made scrubs and salves, but these sort of team-ups aren't uncommon here—just down the street, the former Newport Market (now **Gelato Carina**) used to sell wool and gelato side by side.

Take your provisions with you for an easy hike on the **Four Lakes Trail** (tourismsquamish.com), a gentle eight-kilometre walk through red cedar and Douglas fir trees that winds around, surprise, four lakes (Alice, Stump, Edith and Fawn, if you were wondering). June is still early enough to avoid the beach crowds, so grab a choice spot on the shore for your picnic after exploring the sun-dappled forest paths. Or, if a simple stroll isn't daring enough for you, **Squamish Adventure** (squamishadventure.com) will help book your excursion of choice, from horseback rides to kiteboarding (though, unfortunately,

no horse kiteboarding at this point in time).

Sneak into the **Executive Suites Hotel and Resort** (executivesuitessquamish.com) after your busy afternoon of hiking/cheese-feasting for a surprisingly excellent pool-side massage overlooking the Garibaldi mountain range, and then gear up for a big Saturday night spent at the **Howe Sound Inn and Brewing Co.** (howesound.com). It's the best brew pub in Squamish—never mind that it's the only one—run by one of B.C.'s stalwart craft brewers. Plot out a tasting menu of your own (the regular menu is composed of elegantly executed pub fare: think burgers piled with caramelized onions or chorizo flatbread) or pick up tickets to one of the monthly beer-pairing dinners and gather around the long table in the big, buzzing space for four courses of smartly crafted dishes and brews. Try the fruity Super Jupiter Grapefruit ISA or the dangerously strong Woolly Bugger barley wine. And if you're having way too much fun to drive back to your cabin? Sleep it off in the attached 20-room hotel.

weekends, the three-table café fills up in a snap, but locals happily set themselves up around the picnic tables that spill out from the patio onto the lawn. Chef Tom Giblin, formerly of Whistler's famed Araxi, serves up a seasonally influenced menu packed with locally sourced produce and house-smoked meats. Order the corn beef hash (we love the smoked potatoes) and make sure to grab a homemade brownie for the road.

The **Sea to Sky Gondola** (seatoskygondola.com) has been open for only a year, but already it's an icon of the region, and a perfect last stop on your way back to Vancouver. Take the scenic 10-minute ride up (keep an eye out for bears ranging below) and then spend the morning exploring the pretty walking trails and sweeping viewpoints available at the top. The brave can take in a perfectly framed vista of Howe Sound from the Sky Pilot Suspension Bridge; the thirsty can do so from the sunny lounge patio, a glass of Burrowing Owl wine in hand. **///**

New and Improved The Sea to Sky Gondola (top left) has brought a new group of visitors to Squamish, where they fall prey to the charms of spots like Fergie's Cafe (bottom) and Sunwolf (top right).

SUNDAY

Fergie's (sunwolf.net/fergies) is the best breakfast in Squamish—and, lucky you, it's just steps away from your cabin at Sunwolf. On sunny

What a Dish

This isn't your grandma's pottery: the latest handmade ceramics are fine-finished and gracefully modern.



1 Tea Time

Creamer, sugar bowl and ceramic spoon (from \$8) by Jackie Frioud. walrushome.com

2 Flower Power

Ash grey drip vase (\$59) by Mud Australia. providehome.com

3 Hot Stuff

Beige mug (\$24) by Hasami Porcelain Japan. vanspecial.com

4 Linen Love

Duet white with grey edge linen napkin (\$15) by Linen Way. providehome.com

5 Divine Dining

Porcelain dinner plate and pebble cereal bowl (from \$48) by Mud Australia. providehome.com

6 Blue Beauty

Sai bowls (from \$13) by Miya Japan. litchfieldtheshop.com

7 Earn Your Stripes

Striped chambray towel/tablecloth (\$40) by Fog Linen. oldfaithfulshop.com

8 Shine On

Shiny copper flatware set (\$30) by CB2. cb2.com



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arteriorshome.com



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kathykuohome.com



The classic **Eames aluminum chair** (\$1,375) is sure to inspire great work.
hermanmiller.com

DESIGNER SNAPSHOT

» While the presence of a handsome desk and chair often suggests a dedicated workspace, designer Kevin Mitchell of Cridland Associates is quick to note that this isn't your typical office. Transforming an unfinished room into a stunning study for two empty nesters, Mitchell took care to create ample space for the couple's personal treasures. Against a gorgeous view of the riverfront, a stone bench plays host to an assortment of vintage industrial moulds—a find from Palm Springs—while streamlined furnishings and monochromatic shelving draw attention to an eclectic collection of antique books, childhood mementos and tropical souvenirs. “Keep the room quiet and let everything you put into it sing,” says Mitchell. And don't be afraid to do some rearranging, either. “It's definitely a living space,” he says. “Things aren't meant to be static.”



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PREDICT DELICIOUS



Grey Matters

Forget 50 shades of grey: how about 95? **Sherwin-Williams**'s menu of the still strong-and-sexy hue has some rather pleased-sounding varieties to choose from, including **Agreeable** (pictured left), **Repose**, **Mindful** and even **Amazing Gray**, which we'll take over angst-y Christian Grey any day (\$46 per gallon). sherwin-williams.com



Natural Neutral

Benjamin Moore's 2015 colour of the year is **Guildford Green**, a silvery, soft sage that makes a dreamy monochromatic mix with **Shadow Gray** and **Aloe Vera** or **Chantilly Lace** (from \$48 per gallon). It's a bit of weathered whimsy for your walls. benjaminmoore.com

Flower Power

Deeper pastel tones are on **Sico**'s list of hot colours this summer, like the hydrangea tones of **Impetuous Blue** alongside the wispy neutral of **Cotton Flower**. Do these garden-forward colours justice with **Muse**, the company's new paint-and-primer-in-one that has scratch- and stain-deterring "touch-resistant technology." (\$60 per gallon). sico.ca



Beyond the Pale

Whether layering almost-white greys that evoke Scandinavian skies or lightening up a space with the buttery hue of blooming dandelions, paint is about subtlety this summer.



Soft Scandinavian

Think Gustavian, in the spirit of a whitewashed cottage on the Swedish coast that reflects as much northern light as possible. Channel Scandinavian style by layering **Farrow and Ball greys**—**Ammonite**, **Purbeck Stone**, **Wevet** (pictured)—for a sophisticated yet understated look (Estate Emulsion, \$97 per gallon). farrow-ball.com



Petal Palette

Behr Paints has named "Frosted Pastels" a colour trend for 2015, and that means an ethereal grey like its **Dreamscape Gray**, paired with the citriny and creamy **Dandelion Tea** (Premium Plus Ultra Interior, \$52 per gallon). behr.com



Clean Slate

Even if you're not into channelling your inner Monet and getting artistic with paint, you can still make your wall a blank canvas—quite literally. **Smart Wall Paint** is a clear coating (\$139 per 2 square metres) that turns any

wall into a dry-erase board—shopping list in the kitchen, brainstorming centre in the office or sketch pad in a kid's room—and can be any colour underneath. Of course, we're thinking grey... smartwallpaint.com

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oh, give me a **HOME**

*A WEEKEND HOME IN THE SOUTHERN ALBERTA
FOOTHILLS CELEBRATES FAMILY HISTORY
AND FAMILY TIME IN EQUAL PARTS.*

by **JACQUIE MOORE** // photographs by **MARTIN TESSLER**

If asked to randomly draw two aesthetic options from a hat, not every designer would feel lucky to pull these: mid-century Scandinavian and Western Canadian cowboy. That was the combination Calgary designer Elena Del Bucchia got when she was hired—for her first solo gig, no less—to create a weekend retreat in Priddis for a couple with strong ties to both Norway and rural southern Alberta.

Sitting on 12 acres of land just a half-hour outside of Calgary, the concrete pad under this house was originally poured for the homeowner's mother's retirement home. His mother was the daughter of a prominent lawyer and former president of the Calgary Stampede. Sadly, she died before her dream home was built; her son—who was born and raised in Norway but who spent several childhood summers in Alberta “playing cowboys” on his maternal grandfather's rural property—inherited the land.

Enter Del Bucchia, whose respect for family history and devotion to clean, contemporary design convinced the homeowner to trust her with the aesthetic trifecta of honouring the memory of his mother, incorporating the architectural simplicity of his native Norway, and infusing the place with a lighthearted, upscale dude-ranch vibe that would please the couple's young kids as much as their constant stream of visiting friends.

“We met at the wedding of a mutual friend, and I learned that they wanted to build ‘a little cabin’ on their family land,” says Del Bucchia. “We just talked about our lives, and I came up with the concept for the house.” Del Bucchia's concept, the results of which the homeowner feels “just plain lucky” to inhabit, was for an airy, unpretentious, sociable space with a killer view of the Rockies. She also came up with myriad pleasing ways to unite the couple's sentimental antiques with the modern pieces they desired. A weathered old bench that once sat in the homeowner's grandfather's ranch house looks at home adjacent



The home incorporates the architectural simplicity of the owner's native Norway, infused with a lighthearted, upscale dude-ranch vibe.



In with the Bold
Designer Elena Del
Bucchia pairs clean
lines with more
traditional elements,
creating a space best
described as Modern
Ranch. Here, a custom
table from Domicile
Interiors is paired with
a dramatic zinc-and-
wood chandelier from
Restoration Hardware.

The living room's ceiling is a soaring 22 feet at its highest point; three huge Douglas fir beams are a warm nod to the tree-lined view out the windows.



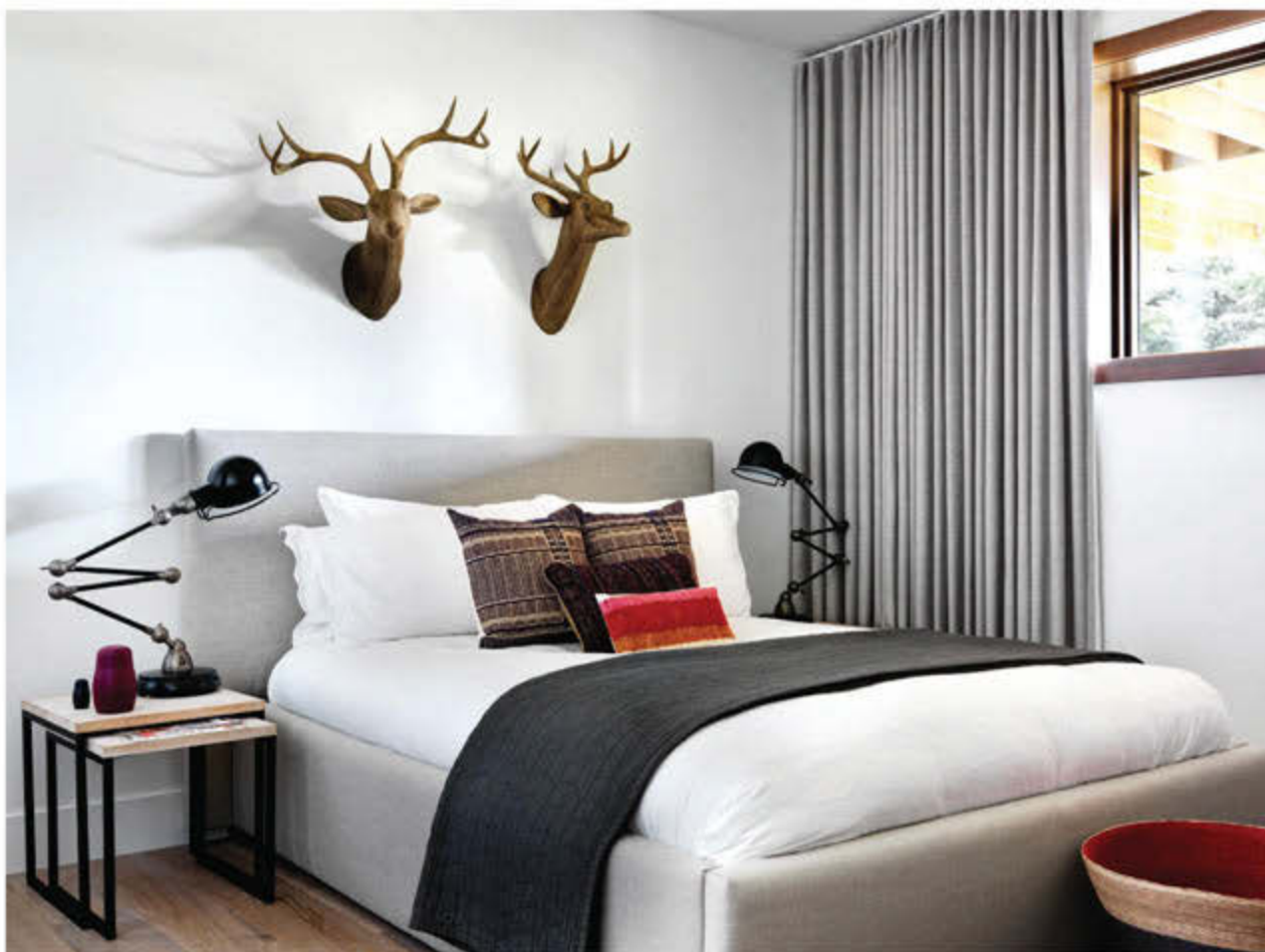
Free Range Design

Mod chairs from Nuevo pair with a 17th-century monastery table in the kitchen. An enormous Montauk trunk made from recycled tires (opposite) serves as a coffee table in front of a pair of Scandinavian leather loungers.



Wild Ones

Del Bucchia found mod ways to include “taxidermy” that might be in a traditional ranch, like the resin antlers in the master (opposite), the wooden deer heads (below), and the felt bighorn sheep head in the kids’ niche (this photo).





to a grey Montauk sofa; an enormous Montauk trunk made from recycled tires serves as a coffee table in front of a pair of mid-century Scandinavian leather loungers.

The living room's ceiling is a soaring 22 feet at its highest point; three huge Douglas fir beams are a warm nod to the tree-lined view out the southwest-facing floor-to-ceiling windows. On the other side of the living room's two-way fireplace, a sliding barn door conceals a tiny library and media room.

In fact, Del Bucchia has designed a home that, the homeowner says, is reminiscent of the house where he spent his childhood summers. "Somehow, the house has managed to become a loose reflection of my grandfather's old place that I loved so much," he explains. (That house still stands on the adjacent property, but is no longer in the family.) "It honours both sides of my family; that was really important to me."

It's perhaps the home's small, galley-style kitchen—all London Fog quartz countertops and grey melamine cabinetry—that reveals the most about the family who lives here. There's a raised bar separating the kitchen from the rest of the wide-open communal space; it was requested by the homeowner and installed despite Del

Bucchia's slight resistance ("You don't see them much anymore in contemporary homes")—but it works. Guests sit there often, chatting with the homeowners as they prepare meals. There's also a breakfast nook in the corner where the kids eat their morning meals. Del Bucchia laughs when she points to the nook's custom fabric cushions, which were recently covered with a thick sheet of "granny plastic"—installed to protect the space from little jam-covered fingers. "They're all about having fun and relaxing here; they're not stuffy."

A seat in the corner of the nook offers a view into the living room and out to the mountains, while a striking oil painting of the homeowner's mother as a young girl (by Nicholas de Grandmaison) adorns the hallway leading to the bedrooms. As well, from the kitchen one can see—hung inconspicuously inside the mud room—a 1970s-era photograph of his grandfather chatting amiably with Queen Elizabeth II in the grandstand of the Calgary Stampede. In another era and another home, a "royal" photo would no doubt be blown up and hung prominently in a stuffy dining room. Here, where a fresh, modern perspective meets cowboy casual, it's just another family snapshot. **///**

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*A WINERY OWNER FINDS A PIECE
OF MODERN PARADISE, PERCHED
HIGH OVER OKANAGAN LAKE ON
THE NARAMATA BENCH.*

by **FRANCES MCINNIS** // photographs by **JANIS NICOLAY**
styling by **JENNIFER CONNOLLY**





Vine Dining

The second-floor great room—kitchen and nearby living room—is the home's showpiece, cantilevered out from the base of the home. The picture window in the library (opposite) frames vineyard views up the Naramata Bench.



"I'm a modernist at heart," says homeowner Ian MacDonald. "I wanted a box that would be a viewfinder to what's in front of me here."

Ian MacDonald can't resist a big, juicy, complicated project. Almost seven years ago, the Montreal-born, Vancouver-based businessman bought a neglected vineyard in Okanagan Falls with a few friends from Calgary—though he knew next to nothing about viticulture. Undaunted, he took charge of a multi-year overhaul, turning Liquidity Wines into a tourist-friendly and acclaimed operation with a slick new winery complex, bistro, gallery and tasting room.

Partway through the rebuild, MacDonald was already looking ahead to his next project. He was eager to build a home on the Naramata Bench, a winery-dense wedge of undulating hills and showy cliffs on the southeastern flank of Okanagan Lake. "It's a perfect little spot," he says. "It's a dead-end road. It's agricultural land, so you'll never have a subdivision here on the lake. It's very private. Every lot has extensive lake frontage—this one has 450 feet of it—and there's only a handful of them."

He set his sights on an 8.5-acre property with views stretching from Peachland to Penticton and dreamed up a contemporary structure that would showcase the sweeping panoramas. "I'm a modernist at heart," he says. "I wanted a box that would be a viewfinder to what's in front of me here."

But executing that vision would be a challenge, to say the least. Steep gullies dominated the lot, which had been on and off the market for several years. The winding





ridgetop driveway widened into an area that could barely fit an aging, cramped bungalow. Move three metres in any direction and you'd fall off a steep bank.

MacDonald tapped a couple of engineers and Nicholas Hill of Ritchie Custom Homes, who was handling the Liquidity Wines revamp, to figure out whether building there was even possible. The upshot: a new structure would be stable only if it was built on the same tiny footprint as the existing house. In order to maximize the living space, MacDonald decided to cantilever the second floor, and he asked Hill to dig out the basement to create a full walkout. He also wrangled permission to include the attached carport in the home's footprint.

Now a 3,000-square-foot showpiece of cedar, concrete, stucco and glass gleams where the 1,240-square-foot bungalow once stood. MacDonald dubbed the place Flying Leap, a wry nod to the idiosyncrasies of the lot. "Building here was a bit of a leap of faith," he says. "And if you go wandering off at night in the wrong direction, you'll go for a very long flying leap."

The second-floor great room is the home's showpiece, an expansive living room and kitchen where MacDonald frequently entertains (or enjoys spectacular sunsets). The underlying structure is, according to MacDonald, "basically the first floor of a skyscraper," a massive steel cage that eliminated the need for pillars, which would have cluttered the room and impeded the gasp-inducing views.



*Now a 3,000-square-foot
showpiece of cedar, concrete,
stucco and glass gleams
where the 1,240-square-foot
bungalow once stood.*



Prime-Time Viewing

A Serpentine Plumb pendant light from Kozai Modern adds a striking element to a room geared to celebrate the view. And what a view it is: the neutral colour palette used in the main room (opposite) doesn't distract from the show outside the floor-to-ceiling windows.



Serene Getaway

While oversized windows might make some bathers shy, the nearest home is a kilometre away—so the homeowner eschewed window coverings. A piece by artist Vaughn Neville frames the bed in the master (left).

The finishes play up those clean lines—there isn't a baseboard or fussy window treatment in the whole building. (MacDonald brought Calgary designer Connie Young on board to work with him on the design.) The custom walnut staircase has minimalist glass railings, and a five-foot-wide linear Napoleon fireplace delivers a graphic black slash in a mostly white space. Meanwhile, the kitchen, by Vancouver's Room8, boasts a sleek bank of walnut cabinets that conceal necessities like the fridge and a coffee bar. Two large islands (one for prepping and one for dining) are paired with Kartell's streamlined white Spoon stools.

Still, the stark, modern scheme does make room for a few industrial details. "At one point I lived in a converted warehouse and just loved it," he says. Two exposed steel beams, lightly ground polished concrete floors, and the rough wood grain of the locally milled Douglas fir ceiling add texture to the space, as does a low-profile Baxter couch in a velvety grey. MacDonald's extensive art collection also delivers a punch of personality throughout the home. The pieces, which move freely between the house and Liquidity, include works by prominent Canadian artists like Martha Sturdy, Brent Comber and Jeff Burgess, all shown off by gallery-grade lighting.

The great room feeds into an office, a small library, a powder room and a pantry, as well as a truly immense master bedroom where the carport once stood. While the bedroom contains a pair of striking light fixtures and a large-scale painting by B.C. artist Vaughn Neville, it's an oversized soaker tub clad in Calacatta marble that draws the most comments. So is MacDonald shy about taking a bath in front of an eight-foot-wide, seven-foot-high wall of glass? "Well, there's nobody to look in," he says. "The nearest visible house is about a kilometre away. It's really just orchards and vineyards out there."

Visitors have their own space downstairs, which contains two kitted-out guest suites, as well as a media room, a fitness area and a storage space with a chilled wine wall. There's also a galley kitchen that opens onto an expansive terrace overlooking the lake, a set-up that cries out for leisurely al fresco meals with friends.

MacDonald yielded to that impulse last July, when he threw a raucous housewarming bash to toast the close of the project. The outdoor, sit-down dinner for 70 was followed by live music on two stages, plus a light show and a bar down by the water. The highlights: the spectacular views, of course—and a full complement of Liquidity wine that flowed freely all night long. **HL**

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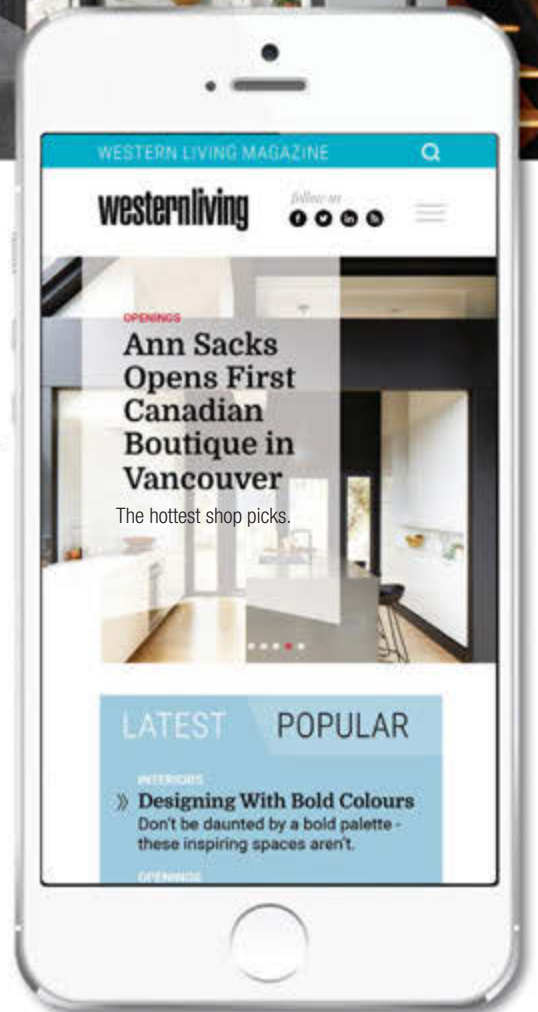


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by **JIM SUTHERLAND**

photographs by **MARTIN TESSLER**

styling by **BRENDAN POWER**



Out There

A cantilever effect allows for this home to highlight views to the rocky ridge it sits upon. Homeowners Jon Friesen and Silping Wong (opposite), with daughter Neko, take in the view.



Architect D'Arcy Jones says that he carves out houses from the inside, with human dimensions and utility as the starting points. In the case of this house overlooking Kalamalka Lake in the North Okanagan, the human dimension is Jon Friesen and Silping Wong, a couple who work as doctor and nurse and have a daughter, Neko. Originally from Saskatchewan, they chose both their hospital and their specialization—emergency room practitioners—to allow them as much time as possible in the great outdoors.

They insisted that their residence do likewise, which presented the architect with several challenges. The new house would have to preserve the site in a pristine, natural condition, while framing the most appealing views and hiding the least desired. It would have to be built of wood, concrete, steel and other materials that are robust and have a natural feel. And it couldn't cost a lot, since every hour spent working to pay off the house would be an hour not spent outside.

The residence that resulted takes its place in a line



Modern Okanagan

A Bensen sectional, Eames rocking chair and custom dining table (note the slot that allows the bench to cleverly slide in) outfit the main floor.



of remarkable Jones designs that launched less than a decade and a half ago, immediately after he finished architectural school. That first house was commissioned by his parents for a suburb of Kamloops, and proved so impressive it landed in these pages, as have others. He's far from the only contemporary designer with a dogged commitment to making homes work better for the people who live in them, but few are doing it as thoughtfully and even fewer as cost-effectively. And while his practice is based in Vancouver, Jones grew up in the Interior and has a deep

Inside, floors are lightly finished concrete, and, in places, the surface of the insulated panels was bleached white and revealed.

Cool Idea

The storage over the fireplace is actually multi-purpose in design. It's quite deep, protruding from the face of the building—so not only is it perfect for stashing off-season clothing and less-used items, it acts as an overhang, allowing the main space to stay cool and shaded. (The house functions without air conditioning.)



Smart and Simple

In the bedroom, a milled piece of fir becomes a nightstand, and a perch for a Foscarini Anisha Grande lamp. Custom storage in the office (left) keeps the footprint small but useful.

understanding of an environment that is far harsher than it sometimes seems.

At first glance the house appears to have been influenced by Brutalism, the design movement associated with fortress-like government buildings and university libraries from the 1960s. Well, why not? Another of Jones's houses employed a palette of concrete and timber similar to that favoured by the slightly earlier West Coast school, and Brutalism, once disparaged, is in fact rather trendy just now.

But nope, says Jones, there was no such intent. Rather, the house looks the way it does for a series of purely practical reasons. There was a desire to highlight the rocky ridge it sits upon, and the way the house is perched there helps contribute to a cantilever effect, a common Brutalist feature. Then there was the problem of getting people up a steep slope from the driveway to the home. Solution: a carport below, with stairs heading up to a studio, then a short walk along a sheltered breezeway, the walls of which happen to hide an unwanted view. (It's hard to believe, but the house is situated on a fairly standard cul-de-sac.)

Meanwhile, the house is insulated far above code using structural insulated panels, which are sustainable and easy to use but made for thick walls, another Brutalist commonplace. And why are there protrusions above some of the windows? Not for effect but, again, for very

practical reasons. First, big panes of industrial-strength glazing are expensive, and shaving some height off the windows saved money. Second, the saddlebags, as Jones calls them, are in spots such as bedrooms, where the views are mostly taken from a reclining position and endless sky is neither necessary nor desirable. Third, the house, which uses radiant heat, was designed to function without air conditioning (a savings of some \$25,000), and the blocky overhangs supply shade. And fourth, there's no basement, so the saddlebags serve an additional practical purpose as handy storage cupboards. "Some of the moves that might seem heroic or show-offy, really they were to save money or preserve privacy," Jones says.

The materials used add to the illusion that the house might have been built a half-century ago. Japanese-style charred-wood siding (painstakingly scorched by Friesen and his father) will last for centuries without the need for stain or paint. Inside, floors are lightly finished concrete, and, in places, the surface of the insulated panels was bleached white and revealed. "It seemed like some free texture in a space with white millwork and concrete floors, so we exposed it," Jones offers, as if displaying the humblest of building materials right above the fireplace is something that happens every day.

That's not the only convention that has been critically examined. The house is U-shaped to isolate sleeping



areas from living areas and enhance light penetration, not uncommon in architect-designed homes. But few others would deploy a wall of glass looking straight out at an exterior wall. True, the charred Douglas fir makes for a particularly beautiful exterior wall, but there's more to it than that. "It might seem perverse," Jones says. "But we wanted to get away from the obsession with an outward-looking box."

Well, mission accomplished. This house is highly personal and perhaps not the precise template for a new wave of Okanagan architecture. Still, it's one for the ages, and the design philosophy behind it would lead to better homes of every shape and type. **///**

Burn Notice

The exterior of the home is designed to look as though it might have been there forever, with Japanese-style charred Douglas fir siding (painstakingly scorched by the homeowner and his father).



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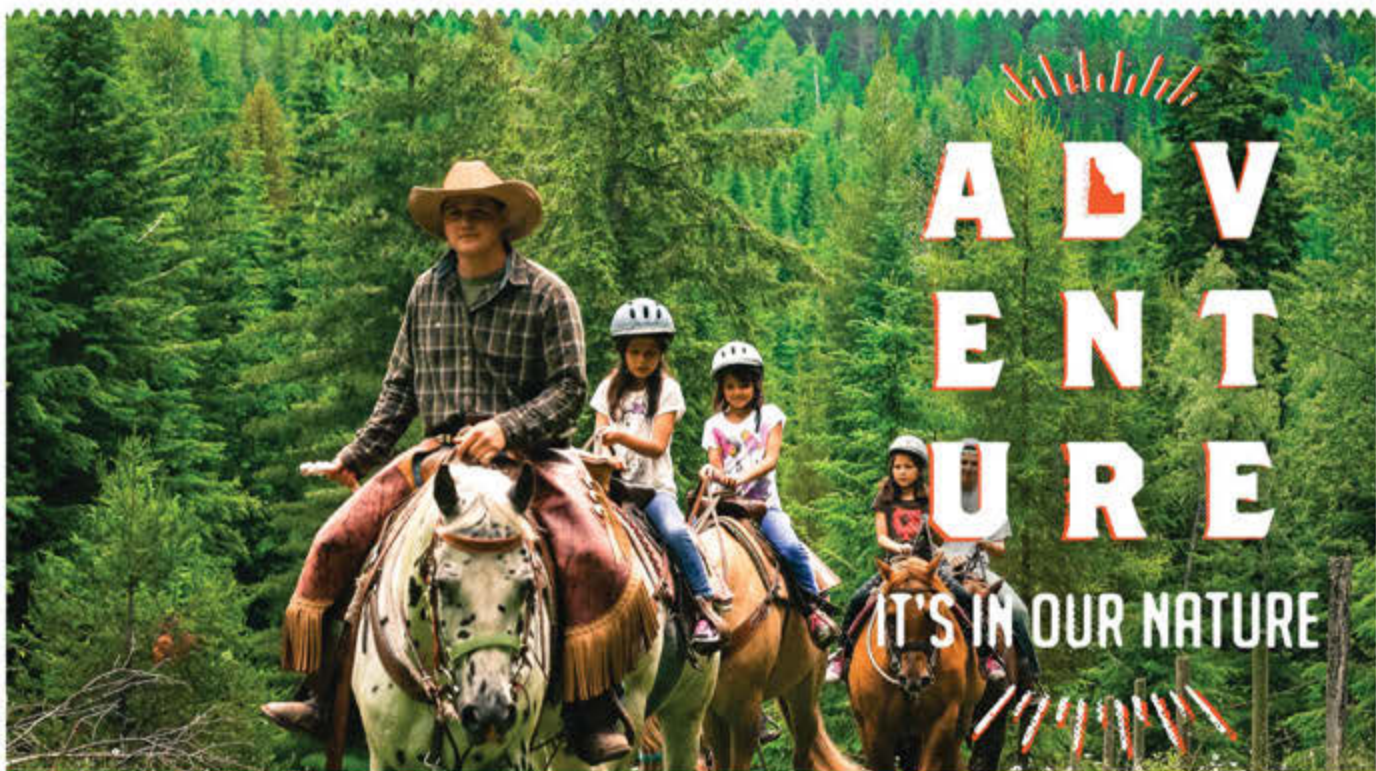
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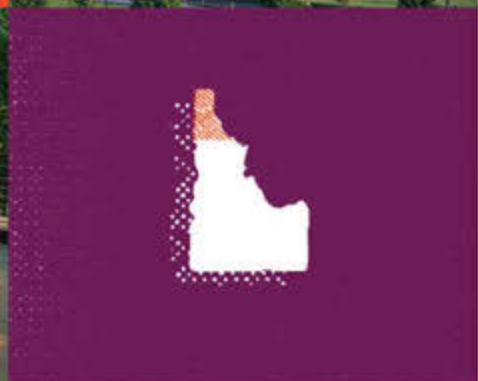
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ADVENTURE

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There may not be another place on earth that combines breathtaking views with breathtaking thrills as well as Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. At The Coeur d'Alene Resort, try your skill at hitting the world famous floating green, relax in the 30,000-square-foot spa while gazing at one of America's most majestic bodies of water, or enjoy dining from exquisite five-star gourmet to casual and family friendly. For family fun, a trip to Silverwood, the northwest's largest theme park, is a must. Experience over 70 rides, slides, live shows and attractions like massive steel and wooden roller coasters and Boulder Beach, a 21-acre water park. Whether your visit is work or play, action-packed or luxurious, it's sure to be the destination you'll want to visit again, and again...and again.



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Idaho

Idaho's unique personality offers a variety of unforgettable adventures.

Hop on a bike and pedal the Hiawatha, a converted 24-kilometre railroad-turned-trail that winds through tunnels and over trestle bridges along the scenic St. Joe River. Go paddleboarding or boating on beautiful Lake Pend Oreille and stroll the main street in Sandpoint. Its postcard-worthy historic district bustles with art galleries, shops and cafés. Dive into Idaho's rich mining history with a visit to Silver Valley, the world's largest silver mining region. Join a guided tour of the Sierra Silver Mine and visit the Oasis Bordello Museum. In Wallace, soar 91 metres over mountainous terrain with Silver Streak Zipline Tours. Plan your Idaho visit and experience it all!



visitidaho.org

Coastal Road Trips

If your idea of a perfect vacation includes breezy beach towns and sand between your toes, these five trip ideas will inspire you.



The rugged, beautiful coastline near Florence, Oregon



Oregon

Astoria to Florence

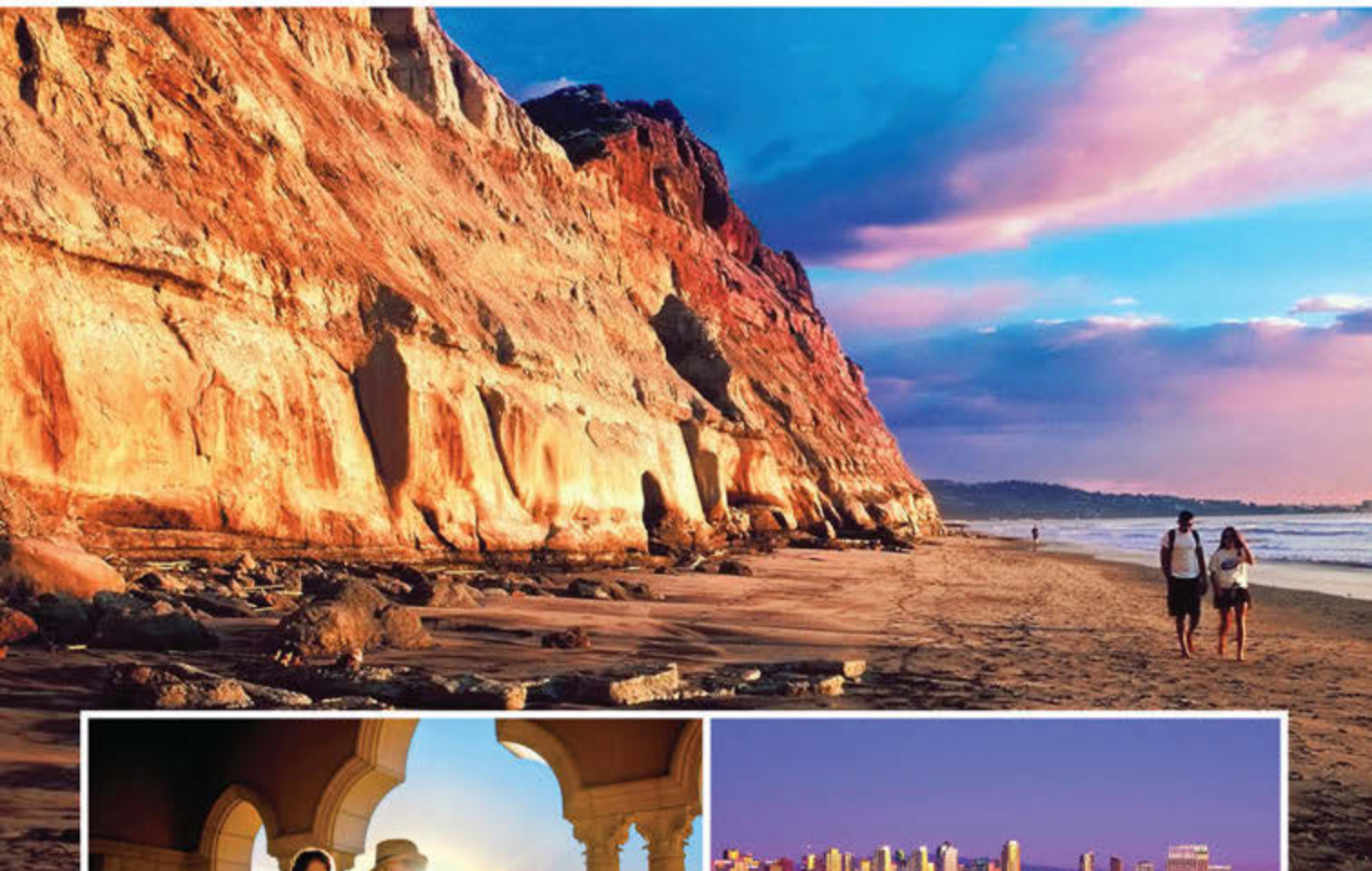
Distance: 300 kilometres
Gateway City: Portland

Rugged beaches and dense forests make the Oregon Coast one of the USA's most dramatic. Historic Highway 101, which connects the seaside towns and villages along Oregon's coast, is the main north-south artery. Fly or drive into Portland, known as a hotspot for sustainably grown food and microbrews as well as its many green spaces. Visit Forest Park, the largest urban forest in the USA, and explore the trendy bookstores and coffeehouses throughout the lively downtown. Drive 150 kilometres northwest of Portland to Astoria, the northernmost of the Oregon Coast towns. Its hilly terrain has earned it the moniker "Little San Francisco." Stroll the Promenade in Seaside slightly farther south and enjoy the carousel and arcade that give the town its amusement park atmosphere. Go hiking and explore tide pools at Ecola State Park in upscale Cannon Beach and sample the cheeses at the Tillamook County Creamery. Climb the lighthouses in Newport and try crabbing off the docks in its historic bay-front area. Also in Newport, the Oregon Coast Aquarium will prep you for the seals and sea lions you're likely to encounter in Seal Rock State Park just a bit farther south. Wrap up your trip with a dune buggy tour in Florence, home to towering sand dunes.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/oregoncoast

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 ►

CALIFORNIA



San Diego

Welcome to the heart and soul of sunny Southern California.

Home to 112 kilometres of coastline and stunning beaches, San Diego is the USA's eighth-largest city. Take your time exploring the walkable downtown and historic Gaslamp Quarter, the San Diego Zoo, and the many museums and gardens of Balboa Park. For great vistas and a taste of history, discover the birthplace of California at the historic Cabrillo National Monument overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Watch surfers at Windansea Beach or take your family for a swim at Coronado Beach. Stroll and shop in the tony Village of La Jolla. Taste craft beers, fresh seafood, farm-to-table cuisine and distinctive Cali-Baja flavours.



sandiego.org



Oxnard

Beach town vibes and outdoor adventure

An easy 96-kilometre drive from Los Angeles, Oxnard is the gateway to both Channel Islands National Park and National Marine Sanctuary, where visitors can go kayaking or snorkelling. Expect uncrowded sandy beaches and beautiful weather in this charming seaside community that offers beachfront luxury at affordable prices. Taste the international flavours of Southern California's emerging culinary and wine-tasting region. Watch surfers catch waves or take a surfing lesson. Walk along the beach at sunset and see the golden glow over the Pacific Ocean.



visitoxnard.com

Shasta Cascade

Paradise for outdoors lovers

If you seek outdoor thrills without the crowds, visit Northern California's Shasta Cascade region. Catch rays in Redding, which enjoys 321 days of sunshine per year on average. Hike Mount Shasta, fish, kayak or paddleboard along Shasta Lake or Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, and tour the Shasta Dam. Venture underground into the beautiful Lake Shasta Caverns Natural National Landmark. Discover lakes, waterfalls, lava beds and steaming mud pots at Lassen Volcanic National Park and Lava Beds National Monument. The Shasta Cascade region is also home to nine state parks, so you'll never run out of ways to commune with nature.



ShastaCascade.com



► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

California

San Francisco to Los Angeles

Distance: 600 kilometres

Gateway City: San Francisco

Driving the seaside Pacific Coast Highway is an exhilarating experience. Begin in the colourful city of San Francisco, home to landmarks such as Fisherman's Wharf and the Golden Gate Bridge. Drive south and you'll encounter the 144-kilometre stretch of waterfront known as Big Sur. Stop at any of the breathtaking beaches and feast on fresh seafood and locally grown produce from the restaurants found nearby. This is a road trip where you'll want to stop often. There are storybook redwoods, flip flop-friendly beach towns and mountains that tower over the ocean. At Ragged Point, you can hike a trail down the face of a cliff, where you may spot sea lions. Enjoy the historic charm of Monterey, the coastal town of Carmel Valley and the elegance of the golf mecca Pebble Beach. Many travellers have heard of the Sonoma and Napa Valley wine regions to the north, but to the south from Monterey to Santa Barbara counties, family-owned labels are flourishing. Explore the red-tiled roofs of the Mission-style architecture in stylish Santa Barbara, star-studded Malibu, and Santa Monica, the playground of Los Angeles. Both Santa Monica and Los Angeles offer pure glamour. You'll see it shopping along the Third Street Promenade, working under the movie lights at Universal Studios and having drinks atop a skyscraper restaurant downtown. It's the perfect last scene to wrap up your trip.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/pch

INSIDERS' TIP

Visit during whale-watching season (May to September and again from February through early April). If you're lucky, you may see the rare blue whales that have been sighted offshore the past few years.



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New England

Boston, Massachusetts, to Portland, Maine

Distance: 180 kilometres

Gateway City: Boston

Start in historic Boston, where you can explore several significant sites along the Freedom Trail, including Boston Common and Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Drive north along the coast on Route MA 1A to Salem, a city with a fascinating history involving witchcraft. Explore the historic Hawthorne Hotel and join a tour of the Salem Witch Museum. Farther north along the coast you'll encounter the sandy beaches of Marblehead, a popular yachting destination. Settled by English fishermen in the 1600s, the town has narrow streets that spill into a picturesque harbour. The Georgian-style Jeremiah Lee Mansion, built in 1768, provides a peek into the extravagant lifestyle of the earliest and wealthiest colonists. Once you leave Massachusetts and cross into New Hampshire, stop in Portsmouth to visit the Strawberry Banke Museum, a collection of more than 40 preserved buildings, many with period furnishings dating from the 1600s. It won't take long for you to reach Maine and the sprawling shopping outlets in Kittery and York. Maine is as famous for its lighthouses as any state along the New England coast, so be ready to stop at any that catch your eye. Kennebunk Beach is a summer playground, and nearby Kennebunkport has long been the summer home of Presidents George H.W. and George W. Bush. Farther north, Old Orchard Beach has all the fun of an amusement park, plus several kilometres of soft sand. Make Portland, the largest city in Maine, your last stop, and be sure to include a lobstering trip as part of this leg of your journey. Lobstering is a way of life in Maine and an important part of the local culture. With views of Casco Bay and its outer islands, Portland also offers quaint shops, galleries and the boyhood home of the 19th-century poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/newenglandcoast

Photos clockwise from top: The scenic Bixby Bridge in Big Sur, California; lobster dishes are popular in Portland, Maine; surfers in Santa Barbara, California.



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Michigan

St. Joseph to Mackinac Island

Distance: 440 kilometres

Gateway City: Chicago

Lake Michigan is the backdrop for this road trip to quaint towns, historic sites and sandy beaches. Fly or drive to Chicago and explore the shops along the Magnificent Mile, the Navy Pier and the Art Institute of Chicago. Then leave city life behind and drive 90 minutes along the bottom edge of the lake to St. Joseph, Michigan, the start of your coastal road trip. This resort town boasts a deep-water port and a charming small town atmosphere. Just as the interstate turns into coastal Route 31 you'll come into Holland, a resort town with a Dutch influence perhaps most evident at the Windmill Island Gardens and Dutch Village, where you'll find wooden shoemaking demonstrations and cheese tastings. Historic lighthouses and unspoiled beaches make Ludington another popular stop on this coastal route. Those who love the arts will enjoy a stroll through the town's burgeoning arts district. The giant sand dunes that give Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore its name are a must-see. Their soft sand cascades toward the lake in graceful slopes. Traverse City, farther north, is the largest producer of tart cherries in the USA. Explore this lakeside town's cherry orchards and prepare to taste delicious cherry dishes at cafés around town. The ferry across Lake Michigan to Mackinac Island is the final leg

of your trip. Mackinac Island boasts Victorian architecture, old-fashioned shops and charming cafés. Enjoy a horse-drawn carriage ride or walk along the boardwalk by moonlight – the island has a nostalgic, romantic air that's hard to resist.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/michigan

Florida

Panama City to Pensacola

Distance: 225 kilometres

Gateway City: Panama City

Fly into Panama City, and spend a couple of days enjoying the stunning emerald-green Gulf of Mexico water that has helped make the beaches here among Florida's most famous. Embark on a self-guided eco-tour at Camp Helen or St. Andrews state parks. Once you're ready to hit the road, drive west along coastal route 30A and stop as often as you like to feel the soft, sugar-white sand between your toes – the colour is a result of clear quartz sand that washed down from the Appalachian Mountains. This corridor hugs the Gulf of Mexico and connects several New Urbanism communities, including Alys Beach, Rosemary Beach and Seaside. These breezy beach towns are home to pastel-coloured villas and cottages, quaint main streets with shops and sidewalk cafés, and uncrowded beaches. Waterfront restaurants and bars are, of course, plentiful. There are also several state parks



WALTER BIBIKOW/JESTOCK

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Photos left to right: Visitors board Shepler's Ferry for a short, 16-minute ride to Mackinac Island, Michigan; pastel-coloured rooftops in Seaside, Florida

and forests throughout the area perfect for canoeing, fishing and hiking. Water recreation is king here, so plan to spend at least one day on a fishing boat, paddleboard or dolphin-watching sunset cruise. Golf on championship courses with stunning scenery in Sandestin. Wind down every evening by dining on fresh and delicious seafood. When you reach Pensacola, spend time in the walkable downtown of this 450-year-old city. Check out the

New Orleans-style architecture and the 1925 Spanish Baroque Saenger Theatre before crossing the bridge to Santa Rosa Island and the silky white sands of Gulf Islands National Seashore.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/florida; thebeachfla.com

Willamette Valley, OREGON

The perfect place for food and wine lovers

Friendly winemakers welcome visitors to their tasting rooms throughout the Willamette Valley to sample their world-class pinot noirs. The soil that nurtures such fine wine also bears luscious produce. Hazelnut orchards, blueberry fields and roadside farm stands inspire local chefs' culinary creativity. Travel through these wine country vineyards on two wheels along the Willamette Valley Scenic Bikeway or take a tasting trek on horseback. Hike or bike the mountain foothills surrounding the Willamette Valley to see alpine lakes and waterfalls; paddle the Willamette River, a designated National Water Trail; or enjoy the view from a hot air balloon ride.



OregonWineCountry.org



Crater Lake

One of the 7 Wonders of Oregon.
Drive around the deepest lake in America.
Or hike down and dive in.



Vacation Thrills

Whether you're looking for an adrenaline-pumping adventure or a serene sojourn with nature, these destinations are sure to inspire your next escape to the USA.



1 New Mexico

Santa Fe and Beyond

Set at the base of the Rocky Mountains, Santa Fe's incredible landscape and Native American cultures have made it a haven for artists and outdoor enthusiasts alike. There are endless hiking paths and scenic overlooks immediately surrounding Santa Fe, making it the perfect base for a trip. Enjoy a gorgeous drive on the Turquoise Trail National Scenic Byway to nearby Cerrillos Hills State Park and go horseback

riding on the park's picturesque trails. Stop in the town of Cerrillos and get to know this old mining town-turned-ghost town. Relaxing outside is part of the charm in Santa Fe, especially during the spring and summer. Several spa resorts and retreats, such as the legendary Ten Thousand Waves only 10 minutes from downtown, provide outdoor hot tubs among the piñon and juniper trees. Both day and overnight visits are welcome. New Mexico's Pueblo Indian tribes are mostly spread between Albuquerque and Taos. Many of the adobe buildings that line these towns were built hundreds of years ago. Today they house storefronts where locals sell handmade pottery and jewellery.

No visit would be complete without tracing the life of Santa Fe's most famous artist, Georgia O'Keeffe, on her namesake trail, which takes you to her home, studio and the outdoor canvasses that inspired her work. A museum displaying her work is in Santa Fe.

Don't Miss: Visit in October during Albuquerque's International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta and watch as hundreds of these billowy beauties take flight around you.

Access: The Santa Fe Municipal Airport is the closest, but the Albuquerque International Sunport is much larger and accommodates international flights.

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2 Idaho

Middle Fork of the Salmon River

If you've ever dreamed of navigating white-water rapids, Idaho is a great place to start. With almost 5,000 kilometres of rushing water – the most in the continental U.S. – Idaho is known as a paddlers' paradise. The crown jewel is the Middle Fork of the Salmon River, with its clear water, Class III and IV rapids and 900-metre drop as it flows through the Frank Church–River of No Return Wilderness. The latter is the home of six national forests and the Salmon River Canyon, one of the deepest gorges in North America. Stay among the Salmon River Mountains at the Diamond D Ranch, where you can explore the wilderness on horseback, go fly-fishing and soak in natural hot springs.



PAUL FRANTIELLO



CASCADE RAFT

Don't Miss: Venture to Soda Springs in southeast Idaho for an explosive natural wonder: the Soda Springs geyser. The world's only captive geyser, it erupts every hour and can reach 30 metres in height. Soda Springs gets its name from the carbonated water springs in the area.

Access: Boise is the closest city with a large airport. From there you will have to arrange an air charter to the start of the river trip (provided by many tour operators) or take the 209-kilometre scenic drive from Boise to Stanley, the start of most rafting trips.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/salmon-river



3 Nevada

Beyond the Las Vegas Strip

Las Vegas may be known for the Strip and its glamorous hotels, world-class restaurants and ample shopping, but if adventure seekers venture outside the city, they'll find a different type of wild time. Just a 45-minute drive southeast of the city, visitors flock to tours of the Hoover Dam, one of the largest and best-known dams in the world and one of the largest producers of hydroelectric power. Ample sunshine keeps temperatures warm, especially during the day. Cool off with a boat cruise on Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the USA. In nearby Boulder City,

enjoy a thrilling bird's-eye view of the Mohave Desert along four zip lines above Bootleg Canyon.

A 30-minute drive from the western edge of Las Vegas takes you to the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, popular for rock-climbing, mountain-biking and its incredible views of the Mojave Desert's sandstone cliffs and canyons. Take a trek to the picturesque Valley of Fire State Park in a different kind of vehicle – a dune buggy – to see the red sandstone formations that give the park its name, as well as petroglyphs from native peoples.

Don't Miss: Explore Lake Mead underwater, one of the top freshwater dive destinations in the USA. Scuba divers here see gypsum beds and quartz formations as well as fish,

freshwater sponges and other marine life.

Access: McCarran International Airport is the main entry point into Las Vegas.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/nevada;
travelnevada.ca

4 New York

The Adirondacks

Adirondack Park is the largest on the continent, a clue that there's an abundance of fun outdoor activities here. Discover an interesting mix of culture and history amid the lakes, mountains and wildlife that make up the seven regions of Adirondack

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SHANE DIETER/FLIGHTLINEZ BOOTLEG CANYON



MONTANA OFFICE OF TOURISM/DONNIE SEXTON

Photos clockwise from left: Ziplining at Flightlinez over Bootleg Canyon, Nevada, reveals incredible vistas; horseback riding through wildflowers in Montana; a trail hike through New York's Adirondack Mountains.

Park. Dive – yes, dive – to see sunken shipwrecks in the Adirondack Seaway, hike the High Peaks for amazing views, fish for bass on Lake Champlain and inhale the fresh air while spotting osprey and other



JOHN J GLADE

birds. Witness Olympic thrills in Lake Placid with a visit to the Olympic Museum. Enjoy world-class artwork at the Hyde Collection in Glen Falls and learn about the history of the Adirondacks at the Adirondack Museum in Blue Mountain Lake.

Don't Miss: Meander along the 77-kilometre High Peaks Scenic Byway among Adirondack Park's tallest mountains.

Access: Plattsburgh International Airport is the closest. For those who want to extend their trip, Albany International Airport in New York and Burlington International Airport in Vermont are each a two-hour drive away.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/adirondacks

5 Montana

Two Spectacular National Parks

The first of this state's natural wonders, Glacier National Park is a living postcard. Its majestic peaks, glacier-covered trails, alpine meadows, lakes and wildlife make the Northwest Montana park, nicknamed the "Crown of the Continent," one of the most intact ecosystems in North America. Drive the 80-kilometre Going-to-the-Sun Road for glimpses of grizzly and black bears, moose, elk and more. Venture south to the towns of West Yellowstone, Gardiner and Cooke

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 ►



Long Beach Peninsula, WASHINGTON

Natural harmony on the Northwest coast

Experience the authentic Pacific Northwest coast on Long Beach Peninsula. Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean, Columbia River and Willapa Bay, the villages along the Long Beach Peninsula offer delicious seafood, comfortable lodging, and plenty of festivals. Visit unique museums dedicated to colourful kites and Victorian-era carriages, among other one-of-kind treasures. Explore two working lighthouses, ride along the Pacific Ocean on horseback, hike or bike the Discovery Trail and discover an ancient Sitka Spruce forest – these are just a few of the adventures awaiting you on Washington's Long Beach Peninsula.



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JOEL GRIMES

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

City to enter Yellowstone National Park and see geysers (Old Faithful and Norris) as well as hot springs among the mountains and rivers that are home to bison, wolves and other wildlife. Experience Montana's cowboy culture with a visit to a rodeo in Wolf Point, such as the Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede. Many Native American communities across the state work to preserve their history and culture, including re-enactments at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

Don't Miss: Visit in the summer and watch as water on the rock face known as the Weeping Wall falls into the spring below, making it one of the most-photographed spots in the park.

Access: Glacier Park International Airport is about 48 kilometres west of the park's west entrance.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/glacier-national-park

6 Arizona

Grand Canyon National Park

One of the USA's most famous landmarks and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Grand Canyon National Park encompasses plummeting crevices and fiery hues stretching across nearly 5,000 square kilometres. Most visitors enjoy hiking or riding a mule along the South Rim trails. For more action join a heart-pumping rafting trip down the Colorado River, which winds through the canyon. A totally different type of thrill can be enjoyed on a helicopter tour, which provides breathtaking vistas, a narrated history of the area and a chance to see wildlife from a unique vantage point. Some tours

This aerial view of the Grand Canyon in Arizona shows why it's one of the USA's most visited national parks.

even include a catered lunch prepared alongside the river thousands of metres below the canyon rim. Before you head to the park, spend a few days in Phoenix, itself an outdoor playground. Visit the Desert Botanical Garden, play on championship golf courses and explore the region's Wild West heritage with a stroll through Old Town Scottsdale, where cafés serve Southwestern fare and shops sell everything from cowboy hats to Native American jewellery.

Access: Considered the gateway to Grand Canyon National Park, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport is about a three-hour drive from the park's entrance.

DiscoverAmerica.ca/grandcanyon

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A picture-perfect, real-life postcard in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley

7 Virginia

Shenandoah Valley

The star of the show here is the 169-kilometre Skyline Drive. It winds among rugged peaks, running alongside the Appalachian Trail for about 160 kilometres, connecting

with the Blue Ridge Parkway on the southern end and continuing up to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina. From waterfalls to wildlife, this is a trip for those who love nature. Visit during autumn and you'll see spectacular foliage. Hike along the Appalachian Trail and you may spot black bears. The lesser-known Whiteoak Canyon Trail is home to six waterfalls, the tallest

reaching 26 metres. Stay in wooded cabins or at the historic Skyland Resort at the highest point on Skyline Drive for truly amazing views. Trout fishing is tops here, so expect to see lots of this fish on menus throughout the area.

Don't Miss: With names like Titania's Veil, the wondrous, nearly translucent stone formations at Luray Caverns are a sight to behold, as are the Great Stalacpipe Organ, the world's largest musical instrument, and the 762-metre Dream Lake, which is less than 15 centimetres deep.

Access: Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport is the closest. Richmond International Airport in Virginia and Dulles International Airport are each about a two-hour drive away.

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Omni Mount Washington Resort

Built in 1902 by industrialist Joseph Stickney, this Renaissance-style hotel was host to the Bretton Woods Monetary Conference in 1944. The signing of the formal documents took place in the Gold Room, now preserved as a historic site.



The Omni Grove Park Inn

Experience over 100 years of history steeped in luxury at The Omni Grove Park Inn, in Asheville, North Carolina. One of the South's best-loved resorts, built in 1913 with granite stones mined from Sunset Mountain, the resort provides majestic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains.



Omni Bedford Springs Resort

This sprawling 2,200-acre resort has been welcoming guests and making history for more than 200 years where eight mineral springs gained fame as a mecca of rejuvenation. The legacy continues at the world-class Springs Eternal Spa incorporating treatments with mineral waters, and a magnificently restored golf course.



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Omni San Francisco Hotel

Built in 1926 and located in the heart of downtown, this Nob Hill hotel is located right on the cable car line and is only a short walk to Union Square, the San Francisco neighborhood that has become a mecca for high-end shopping and art galleries.



Omni Shoreham Hotel

Since 1930, this Washington, DC institution has hosted inaugural balls for every president from FDR to Bill Clinton. To celebrate its ties to America's highest office, the hotel's presidential suites each bear the name of one of our great leaders.



Omni Severin Hotel

For more than 100 years, this hotel has stood as the longest-running luxury hotel in the heart of downtown Indianapolis and offers the elegant grandeur of the early 1900s with modern amenities and personalized service for our guests.



Omni Royal Orleans

For over 50 years, this world-class hotel, located in New Orleans, Louisiana, naturally attracts presidents and leaders from all fields. It's been a gathering place for the famous; from The Rolling Stones and Robert Redford to Louis Armstrong and Paul Newman.



Omni Parker House

Located in the heart of downtown, directly along the Freedom Trail and within walking distance to all of Boston's major attractions, this hotel is symbolic to Boston's rich history and culture since 1855 and is in the ideal location to experience the city.



Omni Bretton Arms Inn at Mount Washington

Built as a private home in 1896 and first opened to guests in 1907, the inn was once the distinguished headquarters for the Conference Secretariat during the 44-nation Bretton Woods Monetary Conference in 1944.



Omni Berkshire Place

Built in 1926 by Warren & Wetmore, this historic landmark hotel in the heart of New York City allows you to experience the sophistication of an Upper East Side residence with an enviable location in the heart of midtown Manhattan at 52nd and Madison Avenue.



Omni La Mansión del Río

Nestled along the historic River Walk in downtown San Antonio, where history comes alive. Designated as a historical treasure by the Texas Historical Commission and the San Antonio Conservation Society, this hotel, built in 1852, includes 338 comfortably appointed guest rooms and suites and the award-winning Las Canarias restaurant.



Omni William Penn Hotel

Pittsburgh's premier hotel since 1916 features a blend of classic elegance and modern sophistication. The hotel plays a starring role in the city, hosting movie stars, politicians, heads of state and leaders of business.



Explore the USA

Spring is the perfect time to start planning your next USA adventure. In this issue you will find fun road trip ideas to charming coastal cities where you can explore shops and cafés and enjoy breathtaking vistas. Our crop of breezy beach towns will inspire you to pack your swimsuit and try a new water sport. Outdoors lovers can explore destinations where you can hike wooded trails, glide over serene lakes or embark on a whitewater rafting adventure.

Plan your vacation using the interactive map on DiscoverAmerica.ca/roadtrips and share it with your family and friends, or visit DiscoverAmerica.ca/outdoors for a bevy of adventure vacation ideas. While there, check out inspiring USA photos, stories and videos. Share your unique USA travel stories on social media using the hashtag #DiscoverAmerica.



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Back cover, clockwise from top: Hearst Castle, California (Courtesy Hearst Castle®/California State Parks); Santa Fe, New Mexico (New Mexico Tourism Department); Sedona, Arizona (Arizona Office of Tourism)

THE
Living
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*THERE'S A PLACE WITH
ENDLESS SUN, GREAT FOOD
AND AMPLE WINE, AND IT'S
CLOSER THAN YOU THINK.
IT'S OKANAGAN TIME.*





Sun Downer For Vancouver painter Bobbie Burgers (above, in blue and white dress) having an Okanagan getaway means more than just blazing sunshine and stunning views. It means sharing the area's food and wine bounty with a steady stream of friends and family (like her architect brother, Cedric, above, in gingham shirt).



Okanagan Special // ENTERTAINING

OK State of Mind

*PAINTER BOBBIE BURGERS DOES
THE OKANAGAN VALLEY RIGHT.*

by **NEAL McLENNAN** photographs by **EVAAN KHERAJ**



F

or painter Bobbie Burgers, the draw of the Okanagan Valley is clear: it has the climate of the South of France, but it's a whole lot closer to her West Vancouver home. But it wasn't just the temperature that caused Burgers and husband, Billy Wishloff, to purchase this house and 3.5-acre cherry orchard over a decade ago—it was a place where her family could retreat for some quality time, where she could get inspiration for her vibrant canvasses. And, most importantly, it was a spot where friends could come and go all summer for the relaxed, casual-chic brand of entertaining that the couple practices.

For long, long term fans of this magazine, the house will seem familiar—its simple, stylish lines graced our cover in the mid-1950s. Burgers has overseen many updates since she bought the property over a decade ago, none more important than the outdoor kitchen and dining area that her architect brother, Cedric (*Western Living* Designer of the Year in 2012), envisioned for her a few seasons back. The furniture contained therein was designed and made by Wishloff—hassle-free functionality as expressed through clean lines. The space isn't overly elaborate, but it serves as the base for the family to gather with some fresh-cut herbs, just-pulled-from-the-garden vegetables and plucked-from-the-tree fruit, and whip off the effortless meals the rest of us aspire to. It has a beautifully minimal vibe and is perhaps the perfect summer entertaining space: one part good friends, one part perfect evening, with liberal dashes of local wine and provisions thrown in for good measure.

Long. Live. Summer.



Summery Arugula Pesto

Ours is a peppery arugula—feel free to experiment with different greens, such as basil, kale and cilantro.

Large colander (about 8 cups) full of arugula, basil, kale or your choice of greens

1 handful (about $\frac{3}{4}$ cup) roughly chopped hard cheese (extra-aged Gouda, cheddar or Parmesan)

1 handful (about $\frac{3}{4}$ cup) nuts (we use toasted hazelnuts or walnuts, but most nuts or seeds work)

1–2 garlic cloves, peeled

Juice of half a lemon

Big pinch of salt

Extra-virgin olive oil (approx. 1 cup)

Combine all ingredients except for the oil in the bowl of a food processor. Pulse to combine, drizzling in the olive oil with the motor running until you achieve your desired consistency. Serve pesto spread on crostini, topped with bruschetta and crumbled blue cheese.

Stylish Canning

We use classic and affordable French jam jars to store our pesto because they look pretty on the table, and I like how the lid is one piece that sucks down—we top them up with extra olive oil and store either in the fridge or long term in the freezer. We find that we use them for everything, like pesto, or use them to hold oven-roasted tomatoes in their own juices and the herbs and oil they were roasted in. We bought ours at Ming Wo in Vancouver. And, of course they also work really well for jam!



It's a place where her family can retreat to for some quality time, where she could get inspiration for her vibrant canvasses.





Okanagan Tomato Bruschetta

We grow only cherry or grape tomatoes as we find they just keep on coming. They're so sweet, yet firm and multi-purpose, all you need is a lot of nimble fingers to pick them—when they come, they come in loads.

2 cups cherry or grape tomatoes,
quartered
½ red onion, finely chopped
½ cup roughly chopped fresh basil
Good-quality olive oil
Balsamic vinegar
Maldon salt
Freshly ground black pepper
Dry red chili flakes (optional)

In a medium bowl, gently combine tomatoes, onion and basil. Drizzle with olive oil and balsamic vinegar to taste, and sprinkle with salt, pepper and, if you like, a pinch of chili flakes.

Let sit for an hour or so to let the flavours settle. Heap onto pesto-slathered crostini and top with crumbled blue cheese. Ours comes from Upper Bench Cheeses on the Naramata Bench near Penticton.



For Crostini

Slice a baguette ⅓–½ inch thick on a slight diagonal and brush with good-quality olive oil. Toast on grill or under broiler, flipping until golden on both sides. Rub with a cut clove of garlic while still warm.



Ode to Provence Cherry and Rosemary Preserve

Because our orchard is primarily cherries, we've tried every recipe we've found over the years to tackle the abundance, from vinegars to clafoutis. But nothing ever tastes as good as cherries fresh from the tree, eaten in lazy handfuls, spitting the pits out back onto the fields. That said, cherries don't last forever, so we pit and freeze them for smoothies, dry them, or turn them into preserves.

Fresh cherries
Sugar
Lemon juice
2 sprigs fresh rosemary

Combine equal quantities of pitted cherries and sugar (slightly reducing sugar if you want less sweetness). Add a big squeeze of lemon and bring to a boil in a large saucepan set over medium-high heat. Cook, stirring, until thickened and jam-like. My mom taught me how to tell if it was thick enough by dribbling a little on a plate—if it jells up, it's ready. In the last few minutes, add a couple of sprigs of rosemary to add an intriguing flavour.

To serve, spread a thin layer on crostini (see preceding page). Top with a nice thick smear of goat cheese and a sprig of fresh-from-the-garden mint.





It's a spot where friends can come and go all summer for the relaxed, casual-chic brand of entertaining that the couple practises.



Scenes from a Party There are dozens of elements that go into a perfect dinner party, some of which are shown here: fresh-picked fruit, a roaring outdoor fire, a summery cocktail followed by glasses of local reds and rosés. And friends of all ages.







*It has a beautifully minimal
vibe—and perhaps the perfect
summer entertaining space:
one part good friends, one
part perfect evening,
with liberal dashes of local
wine and provisions thrown
in for good measure.*

Okanagan Apricot Chutney

3 cups chopped fresh apricots
1½ cups cider vinegar
1 white onion, finely chopped
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup brown sugar
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
2 tbsp finely chopped fresh ginger
3 tbsp finely chopped cilantro
2 tsp mustard seeds
1 tsp cumin
¼ tsp salt
1 tsp freshly ground black pepper
¼ tsp cayenne pepper

In large saucepan or small pot, combine apricots, vinegar, onion, sugars, garlic and ginger and bring to a simmer over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally. Cook for 30 minutes, then add cilantro, mustard seeds, cumin, salt, pepper and cayenne. Cook until thick enough to mound on a spoon.

We don't properly can ours, but in nice jam jars it keeps for several weeks in the fridge, and it freezes well. Serve with cheeses, prawns or seared venison. Makes about 4 cups.

For Venison

We buy our venison from a local abattoir. A nice tenderloin is best kept as simple as possible: sprinkle with salt and pepper and leave it to come to room temperature. Quickly grill it over cherrywood coals, just enough to sear it—venison is lean, so it can dry out very quickly. It's also fabulous pan-fried in butter. Let it rest, then slice thinly and serve with steamed-then-roasted baby carrots and a side of apricot chutney (and a glass of something special from our friends at Culmina winery, of course).



Fresh-off-the-Tree Grilled Peach Salad

Estimate a good-sized peach and a handful of arugula per person.

Fresh peaches, halved and pitted
Good-quality olive oil, for cooking
Fresh arugula
Crumbled feta

Vinaigrette:

½ cup good-quality olive oil
½ cup white wine vinegar
1 tsp Dijon mustard
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Preheat your grill to medium-high. Brush peach halves with olive oil, place cut side down on the grill and let them get nicely charred. Flip and do the same on the other side. Set aside to cool, then roughly chop.

Lay a few handfuls of arugula on individual plates or a large platter. To make vinaigrette, whisk or shake together oil, vinegar, mustard, salt and pepper until well combined. Top arugula with peaches, drizzle with dressing and top with crumbled feta.

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Ricotta Fritters

Serve these warm, generously dusted with confectioner's sugar, lemon zest and a big dollop of whipped cream. (We love the cream from D Dutchmen Dairy.)

4–6 cups vegetable oil, such as canola
¾ cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp grated lemon zest, plus extra for garnish
2 tsp baking powder
¼ tsp salt
1 cup whole milk ricotta
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
2 tbsp granulated sugar
1½ tsp pure vanilla extract
Confectioner's sugar, for dusting
Whipped cream, for garnish

Heat an inch and a half of oil in a large, wide saucepan over medium-high heat until it reaches 350°F on a candy thermometer. (It should be hot, but not smoking.)

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, whisk together flour, lemon zest, baking powder and salt. In another bowl, whisk together ricotta, eggs, sugar and vanilla. Add flour mixture to ricotta mixture and whisk just to combine.

Working in batches, gently drop batter by the rounded tablespoon (golf-ball size) into the hot oil and fry, turning occasionally, until deep golden (about 3 minutes per batch). Transfer with a slotted spoon to a plate lined with paper towels to drain, then dust with confectioner's sugar. If you like, serve topped with a sprinkle of lemon zest and a dollop of whipped cream. Serves 4–6. **ILL**

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British Columbia's wine country is as sublime as it is kinetic—a choose-your-own-adventure for whatever your vacation velocity. Whether you ski, SUP or sip, this beguiling piece of heaven is always hard to leave. But with these select real estate opportunities, you can stay an extra few days, or relocate full time. The only decision to make is how much room you'll need indoors once you return from the Okanagan's great outdoors.

Skaha Hills



Lakestone



McKinley Beach



*The Cottages
on Osoyoos Lake*



SKAHA HILLS

Where you belong

Stunning lakeview properties nestled within a 12 acre vineyard—it doesn't get more quintessentially Okanagan than the homes at Skaha Hills. This resort-style community overlooks the shores of Skaha Lake, one of the valley's best kept secrets, and places you a stone's throw from an abundance of others. With swimming pools, sports courts, beaches, green spaces, hiking/biking trails, and your own private winery and bistro among the on-site amenities, we can't imagine a better place to call home.

THE LOCAL HOTLIST...

1 NARAMATA BENCH WINERIES

This strip of Okanagan Lake shoreline is sun-soaked and secluded, making it the ideal home for several award-winning wineries and an absolute must while you're in town.

2 PENTICTON GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Eighteen strong holes along the Penticton Canal promise to challenge those seeking a test, and impress those after an enjoyable walk.

3 PENTICTON FARMER'S MARKET

Recently voted "one of the top 10 places to be" in Canada, locals flock from up and down the valley for this Saturday morning market; proof enough that it's the place to stock your cupboards (and grab some ice cream).

4 APEX MOUNTAIN

We weren't at all surprised when Ski Canada named Apex the best small mountain resort. This summer, hike, bike or drive to nearby Nickel Plate Lake for a little alpine fishing.

Created by the Western Living advertising department in partnership with Skaha Hills.



Penticton, BC | skahahills.com

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LAKESTONE

Come home to the lake

An unobstructed vantage of Okanagan Lake awaits from Macdonald Development's latest Lake Country community. Spread over 550 acres of rich valley landscape in the heart of B.C.'s wine country, Lakestone is masterfully planned to give all 1,365 residences a million dollar view of the Interior's most stunning attraction. The expansive lots, tucked among pine trees and above granite outcrops, are ideal for individuals, couples and families alike, as the area's outdoor recreation options (wine drinking included) promise something for everyone. Positioned halfway between Vernon and Kelowna, and conveniently close to the YLW airport, Lakestone is the perfect middle ground for a summer escape. Then again, with Silver Star Mountain and Big White Ski Resort each a short drive away, you just might find yourself staying year-round.



THE LOCAL HOTLIST...

1 LAKE CLUB AT LAKESTONE

Shared amenities at the Lake Club round out your Okanagan lifestyle. Featuring a state-of-the-art gym, outdoor barbecue and catering facilities, and kayak and paddleboard storage, this \$3.5-million facility isn't your average lake access.



2 SCENIC SIP WINE ROUTE

Lake Country's six wineries compose the Scenic Sip: a picturesque tasting route that winds its way between Wood, Duck and Okanagan Lakes. Start with **Ancient Hill**, then continue north to **Arrowleaf**, **Ex Nihilo**, **Gray Monk**, **Intrigue** and **50th Parallel**. Pick up fresh peaches from **Gatzke Orchards** on the way home and count yourself a true local.

3 SECA MARINE

Whether you want to rent for the weekend, invest long-term, or see what this Stand Up Paddleboard craze is all about, SECA Marine's selection of watercraft and sport supplies can't be beat.

4 LAKE COUNTRY ART WALK

The Lake Country Art Walk proves there's more to the local culture than grapes and golf. With more than 3,000 original works, it is the Interior's largest exhibit of B.C. artists.

5 THE OKANAGAN GOLF CLUB

What's a summer getaway without a round (or two) of golf? The Okanagan Golf Club fits the bill with **The Bear** and **The Quail**: two championship tracks in your new backyard.

6 LAKE COUNTRY OPEN AIR PERFORMANCE SOCIETY

Find a great live act in a local park each Saturday in July and August thanks to the Lake Country Open Air Performance Society. Various locations.

Zero Minutes to Lakeside Living

THAT'S THE BEAUTY OF LAKESTONE

Whether you prefer to hit the trails, paddle on the lake, or watch a glorious sunset from The Lake Club deck, the good life is right outside your door. Revel in the lakefront paradise, and love the convenience of being just minutes away from downtown and the Kelowna airport.

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McKINLEY BEACH

Live Your True Life Story. Every Day.

Remember when quality of life, community, and family were central to our existence? When the natural surroundings of our homes exuded a calming influence instead of the crowded landscape we often find ourselves occupying?

Discover McKinley Beach. An authentic contemporary community, away from the hectic pace of life, that offers an escape to a place where you can live your true life story every day.

Featuring a kilometre of sunny beach, stunning panoramic views, and warm West Coast architecture, McKinley Beach is lakefront living at its very best. Stay at home, or venture only mere minutes to take full advantage of the very best of the Okanagan Valley.



THE LOCAL HOTLIST...

1 MCKINLEY BEACH AMENITIES

The McKinley Beach area hosts numerous amenities including hiking trails, rock climbing, beachfront cooking, and lake activities.

2 GALLAGHER'S CANYON

Gallagher's Canyon is a premier golf resort destination in the Okanagan Valley, featuring a spectacular par 72, 18-hole championship course, fine dining, walking & hiking trails, and scenic views from every vantage point.

3 KNOX MOUNTAIN PARK

Kelowna's largest natural park, Knox Mountain Park, features a variety of activities including hiking, walking, running, biking, and bird watching.

4 DOWNTOWN KELOWNA

Located a short 15 minute drive from McKinley Beach, the Kelowna Downtown core features boutique shopping and fine dining.



5 CITY PARK

Nestled on the Downtown Kelowna Beachfront, City Park is a multi-faceted location that appeals to all ages. Here you can find lawn bowling, a picnic area, sports field, playground, and a water park.

6 GREY MONK ESTATE WINERY

Established in 1972, Gray Monk produces quality award-winning wine and maintains over 75 acres of sun-drenched vineyards overlooking the Okanagan Lake. Photo courtesy of Brian Sprout.



7 OYAMA ZIPLINE

If you desire a thrill-seeking adventure, the Oyama Zipline park will take you to new heights as you venture through a zipline tour reaching up to 85 kms per hour. Not for the faint of heart.



LIVE YOUR TRUE LIFE STORY. EVERY DAY.

Whatever your story, it needs a setting. It needs a community built with passion and a concern for the future. It needs a place where there's room for more, where you can make every day an adventure. What if your story's setting included a sunny beach to play on, a lake to boat on and trails to hike?

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THE LOCAL HOTLIST...

1 PLATINUM BENCH ESTATE WINERY & ARTISAN BREAD CO.

Carbo-load (organically!) for a long day of wine tastings at your first stop, thanks to this perfect pairing. Now that's what we call a breakfast of champions.

2 SONORA DUNES GOLF COURSE

Every Okanagan itinerary has room for a quick nine holes at the valley's favourite executive track.

3 TERRAFINA AT HESTER CREEK ESTATE WINERY

Let Okanagan-born Chef Jenna Pillon, transport you to Tuscany with an authentic Italian dinner and, of course, more wine.

4 BLACK HILLS ESTATE WINERY

Whoever coined "the cherry on top" clearly hadn't tried Black Hills' dessert wine—the perfect finish to any summer day.

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Feast of Fields New spots like the oyster bar Pilgrim and Pearl are redefining the Okanagan. It has always had postcard-perfect views, but now comes with a side of serious sophistication.

Sweet Valley High

FROM ACCLAIMED CHEFS TO GREAT WINE, FROM MONSTER HIKES TO ARTISAN GIN, THE OKANAGAN IS WHERE IT'S AT.

by **NEAL McLENNAN** *with* **AMAN DOSANJ,**
JENNIFER COCKRALL-KING *and* **JOSH HOGAN**



Road Trip A selection of things and places that make Aman Dosanj's heart swoon: (clockwise from top left) the barrels from TH Wines in Summerland; the frenetic kitchen at Waterfront Wines; an al fresco dinner from Joy Road; and a platter of the sea's bounty from Pilgrim and Pearl.



3 Days in the Valley

As the force behind the genre-bending space that is Kelowna's Poppadoms Taste India, *Western Living* Foodie of the Year **Aman Dosanj** spends her days gathering the best the Okanagan has to offer and transforming it into locavore magic—so we asked her to sketch out how she'd spend a free (ha!) weekend.

I may have an English accent, but the Okanagan has been home for the past six years, and it's what made me fall in love with food. So when I was asked to dream up my perfect foodie weekend, the only trouble was limiting my choices.

Friday Dinner

What can I say about chef Mark Filatow of **Waterfront Wines** that hasn't been said before? Waterfront is my go-to occasion place in Kelowna. Mark is a humble food genius who is all about international flavours using locally sourced ingredients. The house-made charcuterie board is one of my faves, as well as the Yarrow Meadows Duck (in whatever revision Mark does). It's also home to two of the most talented young cooks I've had the pleasure of working with—Danny Tipper and Nelson Daniels. waterfrontrestaurant.ca

Saturday Breakfast

"Made from scratch," "baked daily," "local where possible": these are things you should expect from a French patisserie, but even in bigger cities they're so hard to find. But fortunately for us in Kelowna, **Sandrine French**



The Okanagan has been home for the past six years, and it's what made me fall in love with food.



Pastry and Chocolate nails all three. As you walk into the light and airy white canvas, colours of perfectly formed macarons, the buttery, flaky croissants and hand-sculpted chocolates take over. It's the perfect place to pick up pastries before the Kelowna Farmers Market or before a drive down to the South Okanagan. sandrinedpastry.com

En (Wine) Route

On my way south, I'll pop into **TH Wines** in Summerland to see my "terroirist" friend and fellow Okanagan *Western Living* Foodie of the Year Tyler Harlton. We've worked with Tyler for a few years now and I'm still blown away by his by-hand approach and the level of care you experience with his wines. thwines.com

Saturday Lunch

Jeff Van Geest of **Miradoro Restaurant at Tinhorn Creek** is hands down my favourite chef in the Okanagan, and the most out-of-the-box thinker in the Valley. From house-cured meats to wood-fired pizza to spaghetti with braised pork jowl (Buttatini Suggo Al' Amatriciana), Jeff's food is just exciting to eat. They also offer communal long-table dinners on

Tuesdays for \$30 during the slower season. tinhorn.com/restaurant

Saturday Dinner

Okay, so it's an expected choice, but **Poppadoms** is my baby. We're actually a family-run restaurant: brother Harry mixes classic cocktails with ingredients and spices found in our kitchen; WSET-certified sister Jasmin pairs our menu with Okanagan wines; Mum and I are in the kitchen. We believe in true-to-its-roots Indian food using local produce, and we even make our own paneer (Indian cheese) and Indian-inspired ice cream using local dairy. poppadoms.ca

Sunday Brunch

Just opened in Kelowna this year, **Pilgrim and Pearl** is the Okanagan's first oyster bar. The room is light and inviting, with blond wood tables, exposed beams and notes of aqua to give it a New England-type vibe. It's all about the little touches, with penny tiles along the back bar to resemble the scales of a fish, and the central shucking station where you can watch the chefs at work. Chef Jason Leizert (formerly of Vancouver's Boneta and also owner of Kelowna's excellent Salted

Brick) crafts a breakfast menu that includes dishes ranging from Crab Benny and Seafood Frittata to Buttermilk French Toast. Sommelier Derek Morrison's wine list showcases local wines alongside international wines, with an impressive list of bubbles by the glass. pilgrimandpearl.com

Sunday Dinner

There's something about long-table dinners, watching the transformation of awkward guests navigating their way at a communal table with a bunch of strangers to the journey of passing food and wine around, enjoying conversation and making new friends. And no one does them better than **Joy Road Catering's Alfresco Vineyard Dining at God's Mountain Estate**. Overlooking Skaha Lake, the detailed table is set by Dana Ewart and Cam Smith at a Mediterranean-inspired B&B with a lot of character. When you go to one of Joy Road Catering's dinners, you are in for a true farm-to-table treat. It all seems effortless, but no detail is left to chance for the Joy Road team. The food is just beautiful; I just don't have another word to describe it. Make sure you book in advance! joyroadcatering.com

Bounty Hunter

*I*t's a big dinner party and you're hell-bent on impressing everyone with your wine savvy. You can head to the liquor store and lay out a small fortune on a 2010 Bordeaux, but all that shows is the size of your wallet. What you need is something special, and for that we've compiled the perfect mixed case of winery-only gems—wines you'll need to make a journey to the farm gate to find, but that show just how committed you are to sourcing great bottles.

photograph by **RAEFF MILES** styling by **NICOLE SJÖSTEDT**



From Left:

Elephant Island The Other Way Chardonnay
Old-vine wonder from the fruit wine masters.

Stoneboat Solo Pinotage Reserve
Shows up only in outstanding vintages.

Culmina Unicus
Find out why everyone loves grüner veltliner.

Mission Hill Compendium Left Bank
Bordeaux by way of West Kelowna.

Township 7 Black Dog
Only the best juice in only the best years.

Okanagan Crush Pad Free Form Natural wine comes to town.

Summerhill Eidse Brothers Zweigelt 42 (!)
months of neutral oak aging.

Fandango Albariño
Bracing, racy Spanish white.

Poplar Grove CSM
Seriously age-worthy blend of cab, syrah and merlot.

Moon Curser Touriga Nacional Already a legend in the valley.

CedarCreek Platinum M
The only local version of Madeira there is.

Stag's Hollow Hawk's Hollow Smoky, heavy-hitting red.



Spirit Quest

There's a distilling boom under way smack in the middle of wine country.

by **JENNIFER COCKRALL-KING** photographs by **DARREN HULL**

Barrel Fever A dram of Okanagan Spirits' acclaimed Laird of Fintry whisky is awoken from its multi-year slumber.

Wine Telephone

To find the best wine in the OK, we went straight to the winemakers and asked them to tell us about a bottle that they admire. And so on. And so on...



Michael Bartier, the Bartier Bros.



The Wine: Blue Mountain Brut NV Gold Label Sparkling
"It hits all the important criteria: fruit, minerality, mouth feel and value—spectacular at less than \$25."



Matt Mavety, Blue Mountain



The Wine: Tantalus Old Vines Riesling
"Brilliant acidity and precise fruit! A good expression of the Okanagan Valley."



David Paterson, Tantalus



The Wine: CedarCreek Platinum "Block 5" Chardonnay
"Darryl pushes the envelope with chardonnay, creating a mineral-driven, racy style with single-block designation that speaks of a sense of place."

P

eter von Hahn wears a neckful of gold medals spread across his sternum as he hoists two large, spiralling trophies of glass and copper tubing, one in each hand. His broad grin suggests delight and, perhaps, surprise.

Von Hahn is the senior distiller at Okanagan Spirits, the pioneering B.C. craft distillery in Vernon. He's just travelled to Køge, Denmark, with eight of his top products to compete against 300-some entries from 64 other distilleries in 25 countries at the World Spirits Awards. In the end, every Okanagan Spirits entry received a medal. Laird of Fintry became Canada's first single-malt whisky to win gold at this event. Both the Haskap Liqueur and the Danish-style Aquavitus won "double-gold" medals, and the Blackcurrant Liqueur triumphed as Spirit of the Year in the fruit brandy category. Moreover, this family-owned craft distillery was also named Distillery of the Year.

"We had a really good week," says Tyler Dyck, Okanagan Spirits' CEO. He and his father, the business's owner, Tony Dyck, stayed behind in Vernon rather than joining von Hahn in Denmark. They needed to manage logistics and pitch in for the major move to Okanagan Spirits' new 16,000-square-foot headquarters, craft distillery and tasting facility. At an investment of \$3 million that includes a 50-column copper still—the tallest in North America, it has

its own skylight in the roof—a whisky lounge, an educational theatre room and a 27-foot tasting bar, it's a bold show of confidence for craft distilling's future in the Okanagan from what has been a very niche industry up to this point. The confirmation in Denmark of their products' excellence is nothing if not reassuring.

Not that they really need it. Okanagan Spirits and a handful of other craft distilleries have pioneered a quality-obsessed spirits scene that's exploding with new tasting rooms and new distilleries, which pop up as fast as we can swirl, sniff and sip. All of a sudden, there's buzz around the craft and micro-distillery route that is emerging in a valley heretofore known for its wine. The watershed moment came when key changes in B.C. liquor laws took effect in March 2014, allowing distillers to build tasting rooms and on-site lounges. More importantly, direct sales of products distilled in B.C. from 100-per-cent B.C. fruit, grain or any agricultural raw product are exempt from the crippling 167-per-cent government markup—before sales taxes—that the industrial giants must bear. Local farmers are ecstatic. And so too are B.C. craft distillers with their small-batch stills, because they can now turn what was previously "an expensive hobby" into a vibrant regional industry, like those found in many places in Europe.

Take, for instance, Jorg and Anette Engel,



**Darryl Brooker,
CedarCreek**



The Wine: Laughing Stock Portfolio
"A classic Bordeaux blend, using all five varieties, that is very consistent in quality every year. The wine shows elegance, purity and great fruit, and can age exceptionally well."



**David Enns,
Laughing Stock**



The Wine: Le Vieux Pin AVA
"This vigner/roussanne/marsanne is white-peaches-meets-pink-grapefruit-meets-rose-petal, all with balanced mouth weight and a little toast."



Severine Pinte Coste, Le Vieux Pin and La Stella



The Wine: Burrowing Owl Cabernet Franc
"An intense nose that shows some ripe fruits. The mouth is full-bodied with a very nice spinal cord, and the oak is very well integrated."



**Chris Wyse,
Burrowing Owl**



The Wine: Quail's Gate Stewart Family Reserve Pinot Noir
"This wine is the pinnacle of excellence for pinots in the Valley. Rich yet elegant and Burgundian in style, it exemplifies the potential for B.C. pinots like no other."



Still Life Okanagan Spirits' Peter von Hahn stands next to the shiny copper beauty that he uses to ply his trade.

who have been distilling local fruit into lovely eaux-de-vie, fruit brandies and a grape spirit analogous to Italian grappa in Penticton since 2005, just weeks after Okanagan Spirits launched in Vernon. With its original license, Maple Leaf Spirits had to be located in an industrial area, despite its small-batch pot still having the energy footprint of a home furnace. However, with the new rules in place, the Engels could move to the scenic Naramata Bench, and in July 2014, they began to reach a new crop of customers for their excellent Pear Williams and Canadian Kirsch along the famed wine route.

Mike Urban opened Urban Distilleries in October 2010 and also had to locate in an industrial area—thankfully, just a few blocks from Kelowna's downtown. He quickly gained a following for his excellent Spirit Bear gin, Spirit Bear vodka, Urban single-malt whisky and Grappa Moscato. Urban now puts his warehouse-sized space to good use with several sold-out five-day distilling workshops per year. Far from being concerned that he's training up his competition, he instead says, "We're following the exact path as the craft breweries did, and they're all doing well." Urban adds, "We're actually at the beginning of the explosion. We haven't even hit the explosion yet."

Certainly, it seems explosive. You have Legend Distilling in Naramata, where Dawn and Doug Lennie give their gin a decidedly Okanagan pedigree with lavender, apple, mint and elderberry notes, along with the classic juniper and coriander and citrus botanicals. And in downtown Penticton, Old Order Distilling's tasting room opened in April. The name is a nod to Graham Marten's multi-generational Mennonite background, and they make small-batch,

triple-distilled vodka and gin based on desert terroir with sumac, sage and apples. His whisky has been put in barrels and will wait until 2018 until it can be sold.

Over in Oliver, the Dubh Glas Distillery opened just this past April. Pronounced Douglas, it's both owner Grant Stevely's middle name and the Gaelic phrase for "dark water." The whisky will age patiently for the next few years, but the Noteworthy gin is already worth the drive, with its distinctive Madagascar vanilla, Norwegian juniper and desert sage profile.

And that's just to name a few of the notable new distilleries. Not all will be great. Craft distilling will see the same bumps and growing pains as the Okanagan wine industry did during its shaky reboot in the 1990s—and that it continues to see today. "Not all craft distilleries will survive the boom," says Stevely, open-eyed to the risk and the rewards of this early wave of craft spirits. But he knows that the competition and rising standards will continue to push the quality upward. "The consumer will ultimately win in the end," he says.

Indeed, it is reminiscent of when a dozen or so winemakers gathered together to consider the potential of the Okanagan and bring it from bulk wine producer to the legitimate wine region it has become. Many thought Anthony von Mandl was crazy when he sunk a fortune into Mission Hill's bold statement overlooking the lake in 2002. But he built it, and they came. Tony and Tyler Dyck are making the same wager in Vernon with Okanagan Spirits' massive new facility. Fortunately, they have some shiny new medals to fill a few shelves, and one smiling senior distiller who has to live up to his own reputation, yet again.



The 5 Sweetest Hikes You'll Find in the Okanagan



Mountain Man
If there's a crag, waterfall, cave or viewpoint in the Okanagan, Josh Hogan knows how to hike to it.

1

Test Run

Carrot Mountain Bluffs

Distance from Kelowna 10 minutes from downtown

Time 1.5–3 hours round trip

The Skinny I personally use this hike for training and to test other members of the group for a yearly benchmark. It's a hike that has everything—a waterfall, a stunning vista, a gruelling uphill ascent and a giant boulder overhang for a view of West Kelowna.

2

Lava Life

Mount Boucherie: Eain Lamont Loop

Distance from Kelowna 5–10 minutes from downtown

Time 1.5 hours round trip

The Skinny This extinct strata volcano offers a stunning panorama of most of Kelowna from two different summits. You can head straight up for a steep ascent, but there are easier options as well. There's even a wishing tree at the top!

3

Just Peachy

Pincushion

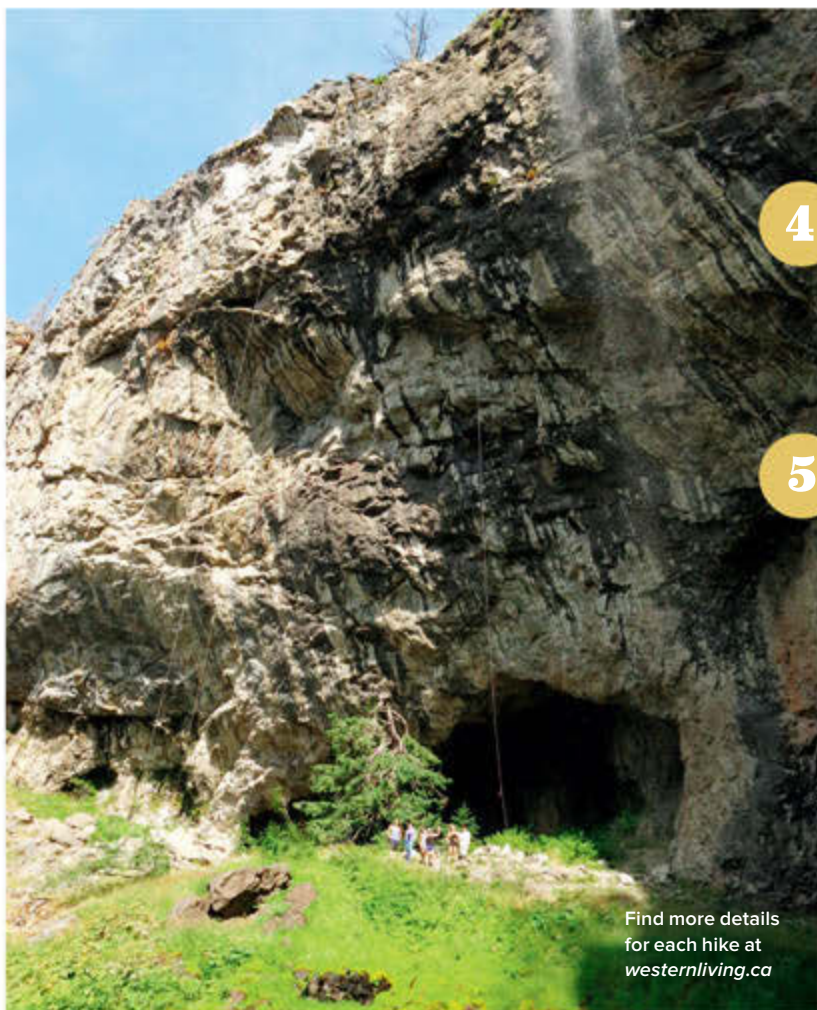
Distance from Kelowna 30 minutes from downtown, near Peachland

Time 1 hour round trip

The Skinny A steady ascent that's slightly challenging, but you're rewarded with stunning views over Peachland and Okanagan Lake. And there's a geocache at the top (a small locked container you locate with GPS).



View Finder It's vista central here (clockwise from top): the Pincushion lookout, the rugged beauty of Twin Lakes, and the cave behind Christie Falls.



4

Rocky Road

Monashees: Twin Lakes

Distance from Vernon 100 minutes east

Time 4 hours

The Skinny This is a stunning alpine meadow that's far rockier than most local hikes. There are, in fact, two beautiful lakes, and if you're keen on overnighting, this is a great place to pitch a tent.

5

Big Time

Okanagan Mountain Park

Distance from Kelowna 15 minutes from downtown

Time 11–15 hours (over 38 kilometres)

The Skinny Maybe the ultimate Okanagan hike? It's a serious workout, but you'll walk through the epicentre of the 2003 fires. Amazing wildlife diversity (from snakes to lynx) and First Nations archaeological sites. Smaller day hikes can be done to Divide Lake or up Wild Horse Canyon to Commando Bay.

Bonus

Christie Falls

Distance from Kelowna 45 minutes from downtown.

Time 1 hour round trip

The Skinny A waterfall hike this close to town? The access point is a forest road but the hike is mild, and if you're in the mood to overnight, you can do so behind the falls. **HL**

Find more details
for each hike at
westernliving.ca

VACATION TO VERNON

Tourism Vernon: Thomas Bullock

When you think Okanagan, you may think lakeside lounging and wine sipping. But if you're after a bit more adventure, Vernon is the place to be this summer (plus every other season, too).



Kalavida Water Sports: Morton Byskov

WATER Boating season starts in May and often lasts into October. And with Okanagan, Swan and Kalamalka Lakes to choose from, there's no need to compete for calm waters. The same goes for the miles of family-friendly beaches (many of which welcome dogs, too).

Rent a Stand Up Paddleboard from **Kalavida Surf Shop** to explore the shorelines up close. Not so sure about this latest trend? Get inspired watching Canada's best at the **National SUP Championships** this summer, or join Kalavida's fun 'Wahini' Women's Nights for "SUP & Wine" or "SUP Yoga."



Predator Ridge

LAND A valley getaway demands at least one round of golf. **Predator Ridge** may steal the show with two scenic tracks, but we suggest teeing it up at **The Rise, Vernon Golf & Country Club, Hillview and Spallumcheen Golf & Country Club** to decide for yourself where the grass is greenest.

Speaking of which, Vernon is home to five provincial parks, and **Silver Star** and **Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre**, so there's no shortage of hiking and cycling terrain. Rent a bike from **Sun Country or Sky Ride** to save your backseat for an extra case of wine, or to stock up on cider from the new **BX Press**.



Robb Thompson

AIR Catch a bird's eye view of the valley on a paragliding or heli-ride tour, or see it all upside-down from **Oyama Ziplines**—that is if you can keep your eyes open.

TABLE Skip the supermarket and stock your pantry straight from **Davison Orchards** with crisp veggies, addictive cherries and the biggest peaches you've ever seen. Local meats, spirits and cheeses round out the selection—and just might inspire a visit to **Armstrong's annual cheese festival**.

Venture into town to sample Vernon's complete culinary offerings, as multicultural as the city itself. Carbo-load for a morning hike at **Tita's Italian**, quench your West Coast sushi cravings at **KawaKuba**, or pair a local white with some tasty BBQ at the **Naked Pig & Station**.

It's easy to see why locals and long-time vacationers swear by Vernon, and it's never too late to count yourself among them.



Oyama Zipline



Tourism Vernon: Don Weixd

SIP YOUR WAY THROUGH THE SOUTH OKANAGAN

Lined with vineyards and drenched with sun, it's easy to love the Okanagan. But with dozens of wineries to visit and resorts to sleep it off, the options could be overwhelming. To make it easier, make sure to swing by these must-hit spots to experience the finer side of the Okanagan.



Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort & Spa



Poplar Grove Winery





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www.okanagancrushpad.com



SUMMERLAND

It may only take a minute to pass through this unassuming small town, but turn off the highway and you'll see that it's worth hanging around.

OKANAGAN CRUSH PAD WINERY

“The Okanagan is a rare and special place and the wines that we are crafting reflect that.”
— Christine Coletta, co-founder Okanagan Crush Pad

What do you get when you combine a bit of graffiti, a few farm animals and a dynamic team who love what they do? If you *can't* guess, it's because Okanagan Crush Pad has totally succeeded in its vision: to redefine the expectations of an Okanagan winery.

This “outside-the-box” facility was founded first and foremost to fill a void in the valley's wine industry. “We are trying to lead a new direction for the Okanagan,” explains co-owner, Christine Coletta—and that's one thing they don't take lightly.

A graffiti wall greets you and sets the tone at the organically certified Switchback Vineyards: bright, juicy and fun-loving—a reflection of wines that pair perfectly with the Okanagan's lighthearted lifestyle. Take Haywire's signature, The Bub Traditional Method Sparkling, for instance. The summery white, dedicated to daughter Allison, borrows her family nickname. Beyond their own minimal intervention varietals and blends, they produce custom crush wines for various clients, adding an unpretentious depth to their already impressive offerings.

Sheep, chickens and ducks roam the artisanal site as a reminder of the all-local emphasis, while the art of winemaking itself, in the capable hands of Matt Dumayne and consultant Alberto Antonini, can be observed from the O Tasting Lounge as you sample the Haywire and Narrative collections.

The result is a no-strings-attached honesty that you can't help but appreciate—especially from the comfort of the Crush Pad Patio. Is it just us, or does the sun *always* shine on Summerland?



NARAMATA BENCH

Tucked away along the southeast shorelines of Okanagan Lake, Naramata Bench is the perfect base for tranquil mornings on the golf course and warm afternoons on the water, but let's face it—we're going for the wine.

LAUGHING STOCK VINEYARDS

“Making a change from a financial career to the wine industry is risky business,” says David Enns, winemaker and co-owner at Laughing Stock Vineyards.

David and wife/business partner, Cynthia, may have taken a chance in leaving the stock market to follow their winemaking dreams, but when it comes to your enjoyment of Laughing Stock wines, they haven't left anything to fate.

Laughing Stock offers three distinct Preferred Share Wine Club membership options that include loyalty benefits, event invites, private tours and home shipments designed

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to satisfy anyone's tasting preferences—ranging from an all-encompassing 'diversified' collection, to a guaranteed full case of their highly coveted big reds. Mother Nature may be unreliable, but your wine cellar won't be.



POPLAR GROVE WINERY

Over the past 19 years, Poplar Grove Winery has evolved from a small sampling of vines into a 110+ acre business. Despite incredible growth and international acclaim, this original Naramata Bench winery has maintained a charming, intimate vibe under the caring ownership of the Hollers. When you visit, you feel like family.

In fact, their 2014 Pinot Gris and Blanc de Noirs are so good, each public tasting seems like a special occasion. But for the true VIP experience, sign up for their Wine Club and taste exclusive wines made just for club members. Stay for lunch, dinner or afternoon tapas at The Vanilla Pod, the winery's destination restaurant featuring cuisine inspired by fresh and seasonal local ingredients and, of course, Poplar Grove's award-winning wines.



OLIVER & OSOYOOS

At the southernmost tip of the Okanagan Valley lies Canada's only official desert, where the arid climate offers some of the best golf, wine and weather this side of the border.

TINHORN CREEK VINEYARDS

This season marks the anticipated release of winemaker Andrew Windsor's first vintages, following his addition to the team last year. Windsor's international experience, ranging from New Zealand to France, has left him with a particular appreciation for the Oliver region. "I want to make the best wine in Canada and the only place I can do that is in the South Okanagan," says Windsor.

His enthusiasm radiates throughout Tinhorn Creek's updates. Saturday morning yoga aims to attract an early crowd, while Dine & Dance soirées and the Canadian Concert Series' BBQ dinners add interactive elements to an evening at the Miradoro restaurant.

Whether for the wine, the dance lessons, or to perfect your warrior pose, it's worth witnessing the refreshed Tinhorn firsthand.



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BURROWING OWL ESTATE WINERY

It's no coincidence that Burrowing Owl borrows the name of a regional endangered species. The Oliver winery is committed to crafting world-class wines in an environmentally sustainable manner and supports conservation efforts for its feathered friends.

Conscious founder Jim Wyse is passionate about protecting and preserving his land's cohabitants and strives for balance in everything done on-site. Bluebirds and bats help to naturally control harmful insects, while the winemaking itself combines state-of-the-art technology with traditional methods.

Recognized for its strikingly beautiful setting as well as its environmental leadership, the winery has become an obvious destination for wine lovers around the globe.



Nothing to Wine About

Industry experts weigh in on what they love most about the valley (apart from the obvious)

Christine Coletta, of **Okanagan Crush Pad**, suggests the Summerland Tourist Centre as a pivotal first stop, but says the locals are the true highlight. "The people are small-town friendly—you'll meet your next best friend here."

"When we aren't busy in the vineyard, you will find our family mountain biking single-track trails in the Three Blind Mice area, right behind the winery," says **Cynthia Enns** of **Laughing Stock Vineyards**.

"Sailing makes me happy: there's everything to love about a day on Lake Okanagan in the warm sun," says **Stefan Arnason**, winemaker at **Poplar Grove**.

"I love the beautiful natural surroundings and diverse ecosystems of the South Okanagan," says **Jim Wyse** of **Burrowing Owl Estate Winery**, who works with his wife to protect and restore these areas.

"Hiking in the mountains and rock climbing at Skaha Bluffs are always at the top of my list," says **Tinhorn Creek** winemaker **Andrew Windsor**.

"Nothing pairs better with a spa treatment and a wine tasting than a round of golf," says **Warren Janes**, general manager of **Spirit Ridge**. He suggests local favourite **Sonora Dunes Golf Club** to get your fix.

SPIRIT RIDGE VINEYARD RESORT & SPA

Follow the sun-soaked valley as far south as you can go to find Canada's hottest resort—in more ways than one. The luxurious Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort is the perfect place to wind down after long days of wine sipping under the Okanagan sun. This trip is all about treating yourself and no one does it better.

From three-bedroom residences to single-bedroom suites, these comfortable accommodations offer the perfect home base for your visits to the area's best vineyards. That being said, we recommend dedicating some of your time to the resort's own beautiful amenities—you'll see why.

An oasis-like treatment at the Solterra Desert Spa will help you leave the chaos of home behind and truly escape into vacation mode, allowing you to make the most of the Okanagan's ultimate outdoor playground.

Get the lay of the land from an aerial view with Okanagan Mountain Helicopters as you plan your next stop. And don't miss the on-site Nk'Mip Cultural Centre, where interactive exhibits and guided tours explain the history of the Osoyoos Indian Band, and kid-friendly activities prove that Spirit Ridge is as suitable for a family vacation as a grown-up getaway.

Following a bit of background information, you can fully enjoy your visit to their namesake Nk'Mip Cellars Winery. After all, it's practically in your backyard. Speaking of backyards, Osoyoos Lake claims the warmest water temperatures in the country, but don't take our word for it—test them for yourself at your own private beach.

An exotic beachside tiki bar, complete with rope swing bar seats, awaits with afternoon refreshments before you settle into Talon's Restaurant for contemporary seasonal fare that pays homage to the culinary traditions and food sources of the local indigenous people. Breakfast, lunch and starters are always an option, but good luck resisting their sweet and spicy dry-rubbed salmon filet, or braised beef short rib with red wine reduction—you could easily dedicate *all* of your meals to their new summer menu.

No matter how you choose to spend your days in the South Okanagan, Spirit Ridge is the obvious place to end them.



Talon's Restaurant at Spirit Ridge Vineyard Resort & Spa.



Sonora Dunes Golf Club overlooking Spirit Ridge.



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For complete retailer listings, please visit the manufacturer's website.

WHAT A DISH

PAGE 26 3pc Shiny copper flatware set, CB2, Vancouver, cb2.com. **Stripe beige chambray towel/table cloth**, Old Faithful Shop, Vancouver, oldfaithfulshop.com. **Jackie Frioud creamer, sugar bowl and ceramic spoon**, Walrus Home, Vancouver, walrushome.com. **Miya Japan Sai bowls**, Litchfield, Vancouver, litchfieldtheshop.com. **Mud Australia Ash grey drip vase**, **Mud Australia porcelain dinner plate**, **Mud Australia pebble cereal bowl**, **Linen Way Duet white with grey edge linen**, Provide, Vancouver, providehome.com. **Hasami Porcelain Japan beige mug**, Vancouver Special, Vancouver, vancouverpecial.com.

A STUDY IN SERENITY

PAGE 28 Designer, Kevin Mitchell, Cridland Associates, Calgary, cdid.net. **Custom oak shelving**, **custom site-finished maple hardwood flooring**, Barham Contracting, Calgary, barhamco.net. **Custom sapele desk**, Northmount Industries, Calgary, 403-243-0200, and Modern Metal Products, Calgary, modernmetal.ca. **Dotted boxes**, Interlude Home, online only, interludehome.com. **William Switzer chair** (refinished by Cridland Associates), William Switzer, Vancouver, williamswitzer.com. **Herman Miller Eames aluminum chair**, Monk Office Supply, Victoria, monk.ca; Workplace Resource, Vancouver, wrcanada.com. **Arteriors Kosta oyster shell sphere**, Chintz and Co., Victoria, chintz.com; The Cross Décor and Design, Vancouver, thecrossdesign.com.

BEYOND THE PALE

PAGE 30 Farrow and Ball paints, Bespoke Design, Victoria, bespokedesign.ca; Perry and Co., Vancouver, perryandco.ca. **Behr paint**, Home Depot, across the West, homedepot.ca. **Sico paint**, Rona, across the West, rona.ca. **Benjamin Moore paint**, Pacific Paint and Wallpaper, Victoria, pacificpaint.benmoorepaints.com; Kerrisdale Decorating Centre, Vancouver, 604-264-9255. **Sherwin-Williams paint**, Sherwin-Williams, across the West, sherwinwilliams.com.

OH GIVE ME A HOME

PAGES 32-39 Designer, Elena Del Bucchia, Elena Del Bucchia Design, Calgary, edbdesign.ca.

PAGE 32 READING NOOK Noguchi coffee table, Domicile Contract, Calgary, domicileinteriors.com. **Eldorado Stone fireplace stonework**, Slegg Lumber, Victoria, slegglumber.ca; I-XL Masonry Supplies, Vancouver, 604-299-0270.

PAGES 34 & 35 KITCHEN Custom dining table, Domicile Contract, Calgary, domicileinteriors.com. **Nuevo Alban dining chair**,

Manndate SL Interiors, Calgary, manndate.com. **Parisian Wood and Zinc chandelier**, Restoration Hardware, Vancouver, restorationhardware.com. **Custom sliding barn door**, Banbury Lane, Calgary, banburylane.com. **Patterned vintage rug**, Dasan Interiors, Calgary, dasaninteriors.com. **Portrait of a Young Girl** by Nicolas de Grandmaison, **Maple Leaf, 1976 painting** by Jens Johannessen, **Some Light on the Mountains** by Bill Duma, antique brass candlesticks, custom windows, **Chief Body, Blood Indian, Cardston** by Nicolas de Grandmaison, end table, homeowners' own. **London Fog Quartz Caesarstone countertops**, Colonial Countertops, Victoria, colonialcountertops.com; Paragon Surfacing, Vancouver, paragonsurfacing.com. **Blanco Precis U 2 Undermount Silk sink**, **Blanco Diva Single Lever faucet**, Splashes Bath and Kitchen Centre, Victoria, splashesonline.com; Robinson Lighting and Bath Centre, Vancouver, robinsonlightingandbath.com. **Kichler Everly Hanging pendant lights**, McLaren Lighting, Victoria, mclarenlighting.com; Robinson Lighting and Bath Centre, Vancouver, robinsonlightingandbath.com.

PAGE 36 DINING NOOK 17th C. Monastery round dining table, Restoration Hardware, Vancouver, restorationhardware.com. **Nuevo Earnest dining chair**, Manndate SL Interiors, Calgary, manndate.com. **Myrna Campbell jar**, Dram Mountain Pottery, Calgary, 403-938-1928. **Custom banquette flush cabinetry**, Legacy Kitchens, Calgary, legacykitchens.com. **Custom banquette cushion**, Aileen Beninger, Calgary, 403-617-7332. **White Feng Shui backsplash**, Hawthorn Interiors, Calgary, hawthorninteriors.com.

PAGE 37 LIVING ROOM Eldorado Oyster Shell Travertine hearth tile, Slegg Lumber, Victoria, slegglumber.ca; I-XL Masonry Supplies, Vancouver, ixlbrick.com. **Old Tires chest**, Montauk Sofa Vancouver, Vancouver, montauksofa.com. **Thayer Coggin Classic orange chairs**, Manndate SL Interiors, Calgary, manndate.com. **Tribal runner**, Ikea, across the West, ikea.ca. **Arco floor lamp**, Kit, Calgary, kitinteriorobjects.com. **Mountain Range** by Cim Roench, homeowners' own.

PAGE 38 BATHROOM Nougat Quartz countertop, Colonial Countertops, Victoria, colonialcountertops.com; Paragon Surfacing, Vancouver, paragonsurfacing.com. **Grohe Europlus Lavatory Wideset faucet**, Splashes Bath and Kitchen Centre, Victoria, splashesonline.com; Robinson Lighting and Bath Centre, Vancouver, robinsonlightingandbath.com. **Remnants 1995** by Chris Catalano, homeowners' own.

PAGE 38 BEDROOM Custom bed, Manndate SL Interiors, Calgary, manndate.com. **Jielde Black lamp**, Espace d., Vancouver, espacedonline.com. **Drapery**, Maxwell Fabrics, Vancouver, maxwellfabrics.com. **Moose antlers**



in cast resin, Restoration Hardware, Vancouver, restorationhardware.com.

PAGE 39 MASTER BEDROOM Box Frame nesting tables, West Elm, Vancouver, westelm.com. **Atelier Scissor Task table lamps**, **wood carved deer heads**, **Italian Custom bed frame**, Manndate SL Interiors, Calgary, manndate.com.

WATER & WINE

PAGES 42-48 Interior designer, Connie Young Design, Calgary, connieyoungdesign.com. **Construction design**, Ritchie Custom Homes, Penticton, B.C., ritchiecustomhomes.com.

PAGES 42 & 43 LIVING ROOM Napoleon LHD60 gas fireplace, Solace Home Comfort, Burnaby, B.C., solacehomecomfort.ca. **Baxter Italia Cowhide chairs**, Room8, Vancouver, room8.ca.

PAGE 44 KITCHEN Meson's walnut cabinets, **walnut countertop**, Kartell bar stools, Room8, Vancouver, room8.ca.

PAGE 45 SITTING ROOM Custom shelving, Ritchie Custom Homes, Penticton, B.C., ritchiecustomhomes.com. **Purple chairs**, **circular side table**, Treehouse Interiors, Kelowna, B.C., treehouseinteriors.ca. **Artworks by Charles Malinsky**, Fran Willis Online Gallery, Victoria, franwillis.com.

PAGE 46 LIVING ROOM End table, **floor lamp**, Treehouse Interiors, Kelowna, B.C., treehouseinteriors.ca. **Rug**, Nufloors, Penticton, B.C., nufloors.ca. **Wood vase**, Treehouse Interiors, Kelowna, B.C., treehouseinteriors.ca. **Baxter Italia grey sofa**, Room8, Vancouver, room8.ca.

PAGES 47 & 48 BEDROOM Custom flooring, Ritchie Custom Homes, Penticton, B.C., ritchiecustomhomes.com. **Pratt and Lambert Super One Coat White 33-2 paint**, Columbia Industrial Supplies, Victoria, columbiaindustrialsupplies.com. **Baxter Italia Paris bed**, Room8, Vancouver, room8.ca. **Peter Pierobon Serpentine plumb pendant**, Kozai Modern, Vancouver, kozaimodern.com. **Pillows**, **bedding**, **circular side table**, **table lamp**, **wood tray**, Treehouse Interiors, Kelowna, B.C., 250-860-2338, treehouseinteriors.ca.

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PAGE 48 BATHROOM **Margranite statuario marble wall tiles**, Ceramstone, Burnaby, B.C., ceramstone.com.

HOME REMEDY

PAGES 52-58 Architect, D'Arcy Jones, D'Arcy Jones Architecture, Vancouver, darcyjones.com.

PAGE 52, 54 & 55 LIVING ROOM

Bensen Canyon sofa, Chester Fields, Victoria, chester-fields.com; **Inform Interiors**, Vancouver, informinteriors.com. **Napoleon gas fireplace**, Gaslight Heat Services, Victoria, gaslightheat.ca; **North Shore Fireplace**, Vancouver, northshorefireplace.ca. **Custom steel fireplace backing**, Keith Construction, Coldstream, B.C., keithconstruction.ca. **Room B dining chairs**, Gabriel Ross, Victoria, grshop.com; **Designhouse**, Vancouver, designhouse.ca. **Heath Ceramics tableware**, Provide Home, Vancouver, providehome.com.

PAGE 55 PATIO **Loll Taavi patio chairs**, Gabriel Ross, Victoria, gabrielross.com; **Vancouver Special**, Vancouver, vanspecial.com. **Custom fire pit**, homeowners' own.

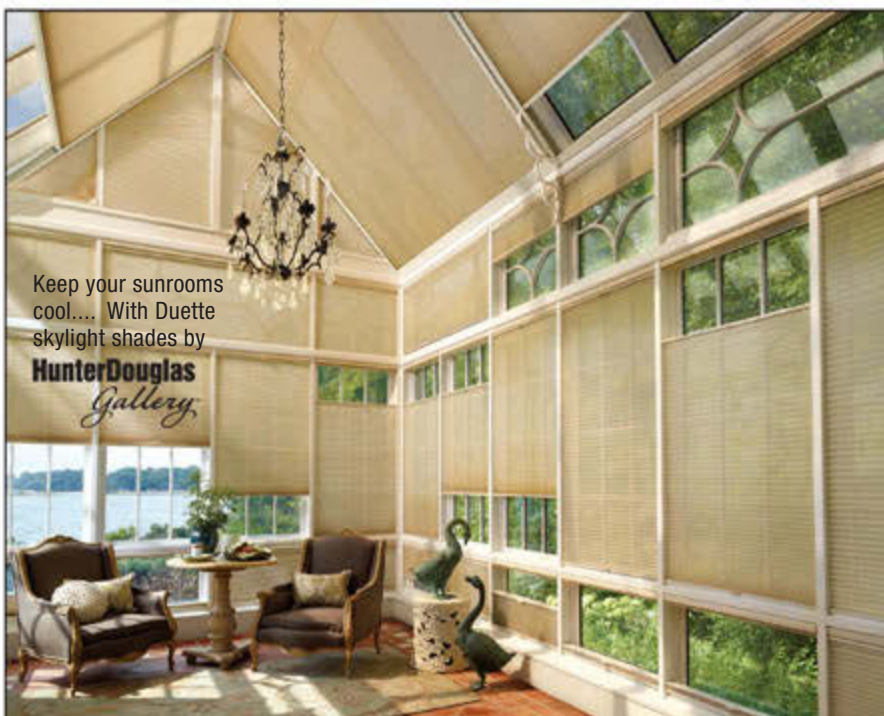
PAGE 56 KITCHEN **CaesarStone countertop**, Colonial Countertops, Victoria, colonialcountertops.com; **Paragon Surfacing**, Vancouver, paragonsurfacing.com. **Room B stools**, Gabriel Ross, Victoria, grshop.com; **Designhouse**, Vancouver, designhouse.ca.

PAGE 57 BEDROOM **Foscarini Anisha Grande lamp**, Gabriel Ross, Victoria, gabrielross.com; **Inform Interiors**, Vancouver, informinteriors.com.

TRADE SECRETS

PAGE 128 Designers, Chad Falkenberg and Kelly Reynolds, Falken Reynolds Interiors, Vancouver, falkenreynolds.com.

Blu Dot mirror, **Blu Dot Bender table lamp**, **Blu Dot Stash desk**, **Blu Dot Knicker chair**, **Blu Dot Wonderwall two-drawer cabinet**, Designhouse, Vancouver, designhouse.ca. **18Karat glass vase**, 18Karat, Vancouver, 18karat.com. **The Lure painting by Pamela Masik**, Pamela Masik, Vancouver, confessionsofanartist.ca. **HL**



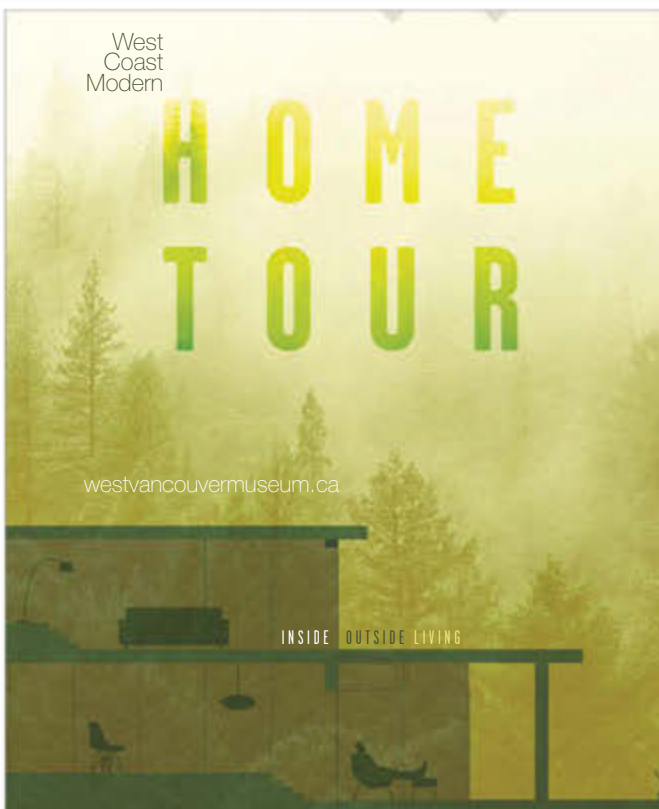
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Trade Secrets

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**Falken Reynolds
Interiors**

HOME

Whistler, B.C.

THE LOOK

Gorgeous Getaway

Double the impact of your art collection with a well-placed mirror.

This Whistler vacation home sees plenty of visitors come and go, so incorporating a multi-purpose zone in the master bedroom that could be used as either a workspace or a vanity was key for design firm Falken Reynolds. Above a shallow desk and Blu Dot Knicker chair ("Because this is in the bedroom, we brought in a fabric-upholstered piece to keep the space warm and cozy," explains designer Chad Falkenberg) sits a ledged mirror, which serves a purpose beyond makeup checks: "The homeowner has a great collection of art," says Falkenberg. "On the opposite wall, we hung a strong piece, so rather than putting a competing piece here, we installed a mirror to reflect it." And from certain angles, the sightline from the window is visible, too—a gorgeous forest landscape that's a work of art in its own right.





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